No. 33

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 1st, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Acknowledgment of the Department's instructions No. 1596 to No. 1601, and No. 4 to No. 7, all inclusive; also instruction dated July 15th, 1898, unnumbered.

(Despatch No. 19, August 1st, 1898.)

No. 33

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 1st, 1898.

To the Honorable

William R. Day,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

Referring to my despatch No.19, of August 1st last,- I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Department's instructions No.1596 to No.1601, and No.4 to No.7, all inclusive; also instruction dated July 15th, 1898, unnumbered,

and to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

No. 54

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 1st, 1898.

Oct. 24/98

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Complaint of H.D.Chapin, a missionary, of maltreatment by the Chinese in western Hunan.

No. 34

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 1st, 1898.

To the Honorable

William R. Day,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to transmit to you herewith copies of the correspondence with the United States Consul General at Shanghai, and my note to the Tsungli Yamen, in regard to a complaint of maltreatment by the Chinese made by Mr. E.D. Chapin, a citizen of the United States and a missionary residing at Wuhu.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

Enclosures.

1. Mr. Goodnow to Mr. Conger, August 17th, 1898., enclosing
   Mr. Beals to Mr. Goodnow, August 5th, 1898.
   Mr. Chapin to Mr. Goodnow, August 5th, 1898.

2. Mr. Conger to the Tsungli Yamen, No. 10, August 25th, 1898.

Enclosure No. 1 in Despatch No. 34.

CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES.

SHANGHAI, CHINA, August 17th, 1898.

Hon. E.H.Conger,

To E.E.&M.P. U.S.A., General

Peking, China.

Sir:

I hand you herewith letter to me from Z. Charles Beale, Supt. C. & M. A., Wuhu, and letter from the Rev. E.D.Chapin, missionary of that Alliance, which explain themselves. I see by Dr. Wilcox's despatches that they have submitted to him practically the same papers which he forwarded to Washington for instructions. It seems to me (and Mr. Chapin who is here in Shanghai agrees with me) that no further monetary damages either for the missionary in person or for the mission can be asked for. Mr. Chapin would be well satisfied if an escort could be given him to the town where the trouble occured, and the authorities there be instructed to obtain for him a building which he could lease for missionary purposes, and if the authorities be instructed from Peking to protect him fully. Mr. Chapin desires to make no further claim for damages for himself and believes it would weaken his influence in that region if exemplary damages were asked for the mission. Mr. Chapin leaves here shortly for Wuhu, and if you ask and obtain the escort and the instructions to the local Chinese officials I have indicated above, he desires to be notified either by you directly or through me, at Wuhu in care of the C. & M. A.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) John Goodnow

Consul General.

Enclosure No. 1 in Despatch No. 34.

CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES.

SHANGHAI, CHINA, August 17th, 1898.

Hon. E.H.Conger,

E.E.&M.P. U.S.A.,

Peking, China.

Sir:

I hand you herewith letter to me from E. Charles Beale, Supt. C. & M. A., Wuhu, and letter from the Rev. E.B.Chapin, missionary of the Scott Alliance, which explain themselves. I see by Dr. Wilcox's despatches that they have submitted to him practically the same papers which be forwarded to Washington for instructions. It seems to me (and Mr. Chapin who is here in Shanghai agrees with me) that no further monetary damages either for the missionary in person or for the mission can be asked for. Mr. Chapin would be well satisfied if an escort could be given him to the town where the trouble occurred, and the authorities there be instructed to obtain for him a building which he could lease for missionary purposes, and if the authorities be instructed from Peking to protect him fully. Mr. Chapin desires to make no further claim for damages for himself and believes it would weaken his influence in that region if exemplary damages were asked for the mission. Mr. Chapin leaves here shortly for Wuhu, and if you ask and obtain the escort and the instructions to the local China as officials I have indicated above, he desires to be notified either by you directly or through me, at Wuhu in care of the C. & M. A.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) John Goodnow

Consul General.

The Christian and Missionary Alliance.

Wu-Hu, China, August 5th, 1898.

To the U.S.Consulate-General

The Hon. John Goodnow,

Shanghai.

Dear Sir:-

Your favor of the 2nd to hand. Mr. Chapin and Mr. Alexander have written out a full account of their trouble to Mr. Wilcox. He said that he thought it would have to go to Washington; I don't think so. Mr. Chapin came this A.M. and he says that the officials begged them to accept a fixed amount for their damages which they did, but this will not cover the Mission's demand. I believe also that if there is to be peace in Hu-Nan some strong protest should be made, and these men returned in honor with a strong escort; if not there will be future trouble. However I am sure that our Government will take it up in a wise and vigorous manner.

I have nothing new to add about the trouble myself. Mr. Chapin is forwarding to you a detailed account.

Thanking you for the interest you have taken

I am

Yours Truly,

(Signed) Z. Chas. Beals.

Supt. C. & M. A. in Central China.

P.S. We have thankful hearts here regarding our victories over Spain. They are getting what they deserve.

The Christian and Missionary Alliance.

Wu-Hu, China, August 5th, 1898.

To the U.S.Consulate-General

The Hon. John Goodnow,

Shanghai.

Dear Sir:-

Your favor of the 2nd to hand. Mr. Chapin and Mr. Alexander have written out a full account of their trouble to Mr. Wilcox. He said that he thought it would have to go to Washington; I don't think so. Mr. Chapin came this A.M. and he says that the officials begged them to accept a fixed amount for their damages which they did, but this will not cover the Mission's demand. I believe also that if there is to be peace in Hu-Nan some strong protest should be made, and these men returned in honor with a strong escort; if not there will be future trouble. However I am sure that our Government will take it up in a wise and vigorous manner.

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Yours Truly,

(Signed) Z. Chas. Beals.

Supt. C. & M. A. in Central China.

P.S. We have thankful hearts here regarding our victories over Spain. They are getting what they deserve.

The Christian and Missionary Alliance

Wu-Hu, China, August 5th, 1898.

To the U.S. Consulate-General

The Hon. John Goodnow,

Shanghai.

Dear Sir:-

Having reached Wu-Hu and consulted with our Local Superintendent, he has asked me to prepare a written statement of our troubles in Western Hu-Nan for transmission to you.

On May the 17th of this year Mr. B.Alexander, a British subject and myself (E.D.Chapin) an American subject, left Chang-teh-fu where we have a Mission station, for a book selling and preaching trip up the Uen piver in Western Hu-Nan, travelling in our own boat, a large native one. After a comparatively quiet trip with some trouble at a few places we reached Hong-Kiang, a large and busy place on the 17th of June. Wishing to remain at that place for a time we dismissed our crew and lived in our boat, going ashore to sell books and tracts on the street we also had hopes of being able to rent a place for a Mission station. We had two days of comparative quiet selling books but the local officials showed a secretly hostile spirit, from the first, outwardly friendly but doing as little as possible in the way of protection in the hope of driving us from the place The bad element of the city crowded the river banks shouting that they would beat and kill the "foreign devil;" we suggested to the officials that the people if thus freely permitted to curse and threaten us without restraint, would soon have sufficient courage for something more than words, but they did nothing to put a stop to it.

The 23rd of June being the dragon-boat festival, the officials requested us to remain on board and we consented,

The Christian and Missionary Alliance

Wu-Hu, China, August 8th, 1898.

To the U.S. Consulate-General

The Hon. John Goodnow,

Shanghai.

Dear Sir:-

Having reached Wu-Hu and consulted with our local Superintendent, he has asked me to prepare a written statement of our troubles in Western Hu-Nan for transmission to you.

On May the 17th of this year Mr. R.Alexander, and myself (E.D.Chapin) an American subject, left Chang-teh-fu where we have a Mission station,for a book selling and preaching trip up the Yuen plver in Western Hu-Nan, traveilling in our own boat, a large native one. After a comparatively quiet trip with some trouble at a few places we reached Hong-Kiang, a large and busy place on the 17th of June. Wishing to remain at that place for a time we dismissed our crew and lived in our boat, going ashore to sell books and tracts on the street we also had hopes of being able to rent a place for a Mission station. We had two days of comparatively quiet selling books but the local officials showed a secretly hostile spirit,from the first, outwardly friendly but doing as little as possible in the way of protection in the hope of driving us from the place The bad element of the city crowded the river banks shouting that they would beat and kill the "foreign devil;" we suggested to the officials that the people if thus freely permitted to curse and threaten us without restraint, would soon have sufficient courage for something more than words, but they did nothing to put a stop to it.

The 28rd of June being the dragon-boat festival, the officials requested us to remain on board and we consented,

merely asking that they prevent roughs from making us trouble on the boat. In the afternoon however a crowd gathered and while the few soldiers on duty stood and looked on with scarcely a protest, they began stoning the boat; one of the soldiers did seize an offender but his superior struck him and made him release his prisoner; seeing the weakness of the authorities the mob redoubled their attack and were in a fair way to demolish our boat had not the soldiers from the gunboats near by succeeded in getting her away from the bank and taking us across the river. We were anchored beside three native gunboats at the time of the disturbance but they were as useless as washtubs. We were kept anchored below the city for ten days, while the officials used every plea and excuse they could invent to induce us to leave. Feeling that they could protect us if they chose we refused to go, and they asked us then to give them time to quiet the people before we returned to the city, we told them that we would wait any reasonable time.

Hong-Kiang being neither a Fu nor a Hsien city has only subordinate officials and is governed by the magistrate of Huei-tong-hsien. This magistrate came down in person to investigate the difficulty and showed an apparent readiness to suppress the trouble; his methods however seemed to us rather mild; he contented himself with exhorting the people not to molest us, and although in his proclamation he threatened offenders with punishment yet he made no arrests. We ventured to suggest that more rigid measures than mere exhortation would be more effectual, but he said that to make any arrests or to use force at that time would cause a wholesale uprising in which not only we but also himself would be killed in fact the city was being nightly posted with placards to

merely asking that they prevent roughs from making us trouble on the boat. In the afternoon however a crowd gathered and while the few soldiers on duty stood and looked on with scarcely a protest, they began stoning the boat; one of the soldiers did seize an offender but his superior struck him and made him release his prisoner; seeing the weakness of the authorities the mob redoubled their attack and were in a fair way to demolish our boat had not the soldiers from the gunboats near by succeeded in getting her away from the bank and taking us across the river. We were anchored beside three native gunboats at the time of the disturbance but they were as useless as warships. We were kept anchored below the city for ten days, while the officials used every plea and excuse they could invent to induce us to leave. Feeling that they could protect us if they chose we refused to go, and they asked us then to give them time to quiet the people before we returned to the city, we told them that we would wait any reasonable time.

Hong-Kiang being neither a Fu nor a Hsien city has only subordinate officials and is governed by the magistrate of Huei-tong-hsien. This magistrate came down in person to investigate the difficulty and showed an apparent readiness to suppress the trouble; his methods however seemed to us rather mild; he contented himself with exhorting the people not to molest us, and although in his proclamation he threatened offenders with punishment yet he made no arrests. We ventured to suggest that more rigid measures than mere exhortation would be more effectual, but he said that to make any arrests or to use force at that time would cause a wholesale uprising in which not only we but also himself would be killed. In fact the city was being nightly posted with placards to

that effect; the magistrate claimed that his forces were insufficient, but two garrisons of soldiers were within call if he had chosen to call them; he assured us however that all that was necessary was to thoroughly exhort the people and all would be well. So on the 4th of July he sent down men to take our boat back to the city; a short time after arriving back a crowd gathered as before beginning with words proceeded to deeds, giving us a very severe stoning; at the time there was hardly a man on the scene from any of the officials on the shore, and the gun-boat did scarcely anything; we were anchored outside the official boat of the commander in chief of the gun-boats of the place, but seeing that his own boat was being damaged, his men instead of doing anything to disperse the mob, simply pushed our boat forward so that his escaped while ours was exposed to the full force of the stoning; they then began to beg us to go aboard one of the smaller gun-boats as before and escape; we at first refused to do so as we knew that they were well able to protect us on our own boat if they chose to do so; however as the side of the boat was crushed in and ~~very large stones~~ coming into the cabin, we found that we could no longer stay aboard safely so we went on board one of the gun-boats on their promise that they would, as soon as possible push off our boat as well however we had hardly left our boat before some of the mob got aboard armed with swords and knives; the natives with us had a very narrow escape in getting off the boat. As soon ash the mob began getting aboard our boat the soldiers on her immediately jumped into the water and swam away to safety; finding that we were not onboard the mob after smashing our ~~t~~ boxes open and looting whatever they could find, broke open a case of kerosene and firing that soon reduced the boat and

that effect; the magistrate claimed that his forces were insufficient, but two garrisons of soldiers were within call if he had chosen to call them; he assured us however that all that was necessary was to thoroughly exhort the people and all would be well. So on the 6th of July he sent down men to take our boat back to the city; a short time after arriving back a crowd gathered as before beginning with words proceeded to deeds, giving us a very severe stoning; at the time there was hardly a man on the scene from any of the officials on the shore, and the gun-boat did scarcely anything; wewere anchored outside the official boat of the commander in chief of the gun-boats of the place, but seeing that his own boat was being damaged, his men instead of doing anything to disperse the mob, simply pushed our boat forward so that his escaped while ours was exposed to the full force of the stoning; they then began to beg us to go aboard one of the smaller gun-boats as before and escape; we at first refused to do so as we knew that they were well able to protect us on our own boat if they chose to do so; however as the side of the boat was crushed in and ~~very large stones coming into~~ the cabin, we found that we could no longer stay aboard safely so we went on board one of the gun-boats on their promise that they would as soon as possible push off our boat as well; however we had hardly left our boat before some of the mob got aboard armed with swords and knives; the natives with us had a very narrow escape in getting off the boat. As soon as the mob began getting aboard our boat the soldiers on her immediately jumped into the water and swam away to safety; finding that we were not onboard the mob after smashing our ~~box~~ open and looting whatever they could find, broke open a case of kerosene and firing that soon reduced the boat and

its contents to ashes; all this within an oar's length of three gun-boats armed with small cannon, muskets, swords and spears. We were meanwhile some distance below on another gun-boat and as the people were putting off in small boats to follow us, as soon as our natives had joined us we dropped down the stream some distance; the captain of the gun-boat asked if we would allow them to settle the matter as far as solutely refused to take us to Chang-teh-fu as he said he would be killed on the road as well as we; we could not procure a boat ourselves and so we were kept waiting there not knowing how soon we might be attacked.

The secret society called the Ko-lao-huei is very strong in Western Hu-Nan and it is freely confessed that many of the soldiers and even of the smaller officials themselves are members of it, which doubtless accounts in part for their unwillingness to do anything against their fellow-members; after dark that night the magistrate of Huei-tong-hsien came down the river and said that if we would not put the matter in the hands of our consul he would pay any amount of damages we chose to ask, and would guarantee that as soon as he could quiet the people that we would be able to return in peace and that he himself would rent us a house and protect us in it; we told him however that we could not then discuss those matters, that the first thing was to get us down the river in safety; he then procured us a small boat in which escorted by a gun-boat we came down to Chang-teh-fu. We were told that the Ko-lao-huei had sent messengers ahead for the people to kill us, but by travelling night and day and taking oars ourselves much of the way we succeeded in getting ahead of their messengers, and reached Chang-teh-fu safely on the 8th of July. The magistrate sent a man down to Chang-teh-fu to settle with us, the negotiations being carried on through the

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The secret society called the Ko-lao-hwei is very strong in Western Hu-Nan and it is freely confessed that many of the soldiers and even of the smaller officials themselves are members of it, which doubtless accounts in part for their unwillingness to do anything against their fellow-members; after dark that night the magistrate of Huei-tong-hsien came down the river and said that if we would not put the matter in the hands of our consul he would pay any amount of damages we chose to ask, and would guarantee that as soon as he could quiet the people that we would be able to return in peace and that he himself would rent us a house and protect us in it; we told him however that we could not then discuss those matters, that the first thing was to get us down the river in safety; he then procured us a small boat in which escorted by by a gun-boat we came down to Chang-teh-fu. We were told that the Ko-lao-hwei had sent messengers ahead for the people to kill us, but by travelling night and day and taking care ourselves much of the way we succeeded in getting ahead of their messengers, and reached Chang-teh-fu safely on the 8th of July. The magistrate sent a man down to Chang-teh-fu to settle with us, the negotiations being carried on through the

Hsien magistrate of that place. Ten days were spent in trying to get us by all manner of means to promise that we would not refer the matter to our consul, but we told them that we should make them no such promise, as we considered that they had failed in theur duty and should be reported; they then asked if we would allow them to settle the matter as far as cash compensation was concerned, and we consented on the distinct understanding that it would not affect the question of reporting their remissness. They accordingly paid us on the July 19th the equivalent of $1864.00 (Mex.) for loss of boat, all our personal effects, money in cash, travelling expenses etc. They endeavored to obtain from us a receipt for the amount made out in such a form as to practically acknowledge the settlement of the whole matter, but we gave them a receipt which simply stated that having received payment in full for pecuniary losses we would not again make claim for them.

In stating the matter for your consideration we would just say that so far as concerned the magistrate of Huei-tong-hsien, we have no complaint to make, unless it be for weakness in his dealing with the matter, he appaared honest in his endeavors to suppress the trouble but was certainly mistaken in thinking that merely exhorting the people was sufficient. Since we left the place we have heard that he has made a number of arrests but cannot say whether it is true.

As to the smaller local officials however they were determined to drive us away if possible and were largely responsible for the trouble; if their local forces were insufficient which is not the case, there was a garrison of soldiers within a day's journey of the place at Üen-cheo-fu and another at Tsing-cheo.

The officials also tried to shift the blame upon us by

Hsien magistrate of that place. Ten days were spent in trying to get us by all manner of means to promise that we would not refer the matter to our consul, but we told them that we could make them no such promise, as we considered that they had failed in their duty and should be reported; they then asked if we would allow them to settle the matter as far as cash compensation was concerned, and we consented on the distinct understanding that it would not affect the question of reporting their remissness. They accordingly paid us on July 19th the equivalent of $1804.00 (Mex.) for loss of boat, all our personal effects, money in cash, travelling expenses etc. They endeavored to obtain from us a receipt for the amount made out in such a form as to practically acknowledge the settlement of the whole matter, but we gave them a receipt which simply stated that having received payment in full for pecuniary losses we would not again make claim for them.

In stating the matter for your consideration we would just say that so far as concerned the magistrate of Huai-tong-hsien, we have no complaint to make, unless it be for weakness in his dealing with the matter, he appeared honest in his endeavors to suppress the trouble but was certainly mistaken in thinking that merely exhorting the people was sufficient. Since we left the place we have heard that he has made a number of arrests but cannot say whether it is true.

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The officials also tried to shift the blame upon us by

accusing one of our native colporteurs of quarelling with the people on the streets, destroying their property etc.: we however investigated these things and while it may be that he was somewhat rash in his words against idolatry, yet the ridiculous charges they made we are convinced are utterly untrue.

I enclose Mr. Alexander's Chinese name and my own, also the names of the officials concerned.

Having I believe covered the ground I will close.

Yours very respectfully,

(Signed) E.D.Chapin.

accusing one of our native colporteurs of quarrelling with the people on the streets, destroying their property etc.: we however investigated these things and while it may be that he was somewhat rash in his words against idolatry, yet the ridiculous charges they made we are convinced are utterly untrue.

I enclose Mr. Alexander's Chinese name and my own, also the names of the officials concerned.

Having I believe covered the ground I will close.

Yours very respectfully,

(Signed) E.D.Chapin.

F.O.No.10. Enclosure No.2 in Despatch No.34.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, August 25th, 1898.

The Undersigned, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America, has the honor to inform Your Highness and Your Excellencies of the Tsungli Yamen, that he has received through the United States Consul General at Shanghai, a detailed report ,which is enclosed herewith, of an unjustifiable and unprovoked attack upon an American missionary, Mr. E.D.Chapin, and his English associate, Mr.B.H.Alexander,by a riotous mob at Hong-Kiang in the province of Hunan, which resulted in the burning of their boat, the loss of their clothes, books and other belongings, great personal violence, and with their lives threatened, their final expulsion from the locality.

The details of the affair are very carefully given in the enclosed report, together with a frank account of a prompt and satisfactory settlement, between the local officials and Mr. Chapin, of the pecuniary damage sustained.

But in view of the often repeated injunctions of His Imperial Majesty, and your own keen sense of justice, I am sure that Your Highness and Your Excellencies will readily agree with me that a matter of such grave importance should not be permitted to end thus.

To The

His Highness, Prince Ching,

And Their Excellencies of the Tsungli Yamen.

etc. etc. etc.

P.C.No.10. Enclosure No.2 in Despatch No.84.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, August 25th, 1898.

The Undersigned, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America, has the honor to inform Your Highness and Your Excellencies of the Tsung-li Yamen, that he has received through the United States Consul General at Shanghai, a detailed report, which is enclosed herewith, of an unjustifiable and unprovoked attack upon an American missionary, Mr. E.D.Chapin, and his English associate, Mr.H.H.Alexander, by a riotous mob at Hong-Kiang in the province of Hunan, which resulted in the burning of their boat, the loss of their clothes, books and other belongings, great personal violence, and with their lives threatened, their final expulsion from the locality.

The details of the affair are very carefully given in the enclosed report, together with a frank account of a prompt and satisfactory settlement, between the local officials and Mr. Chapin, of the pecuniary damage sustained.

But in view of the often repeated injunctions of His Imperial Majesty, and your own keen sense of justice, I am sure that Your Highness and Your Excellencies will readily agree with me that any matter of such grave importance should not be permitted to end thus.

To The

His Highness, Prince Ching,

And Their Excellencies of the Tsungli Yamen.

etc. etc. etc.

The peace and safety of the missionaries, who are in China pursuing their calling under sacred treaty rights must be assured, good order among your people should be preservrd, and respect for authority and compliance with law ought to be enforced, to the end that more serious future trouble may be avoided, life spared and property protected.

In order therefore, that the missionaries may peaceably teach and practice their faith at Hong-Kiang, and that the people of said place may definitely understand, that they must not harass or persecute them, and especially because of the facts set forth, the Undersigned is constrained to respectfully request that Mr. Chapin be furnished a strong escort, and be honorably conducted into Hong-Kiang, and the authorities there directed to find a safe and suitable place which he can lease for missionary purposes, and that they be peremptorily instructed to render him and his associates full and complete protection in their work.

That this procedure may have the fullest potency, and its result be that which is best and most to be desired, it should be speedy and effective.

Hence it is requested that the matter shall have the immediate consideration of Your Highness and Your Excellencies and the Undersigned notified of the result.

The Undersigned avails of this occasion to assure Your Highness and Your Excellencies of his highest consideration.

The peace and safety of the missionaries, who are in China pursuing their calling under sacred treaty rights must be assured, good order among your people should be preserved, and respect for authority and compliance with law ought to be enforced, to the end that more serious future trouble may be avoided, life spared and property protected.

In order therefore, that the missionaries may peaceably teach and practice their faith at Hong-Kiang, and that the people of said place may definitely understand, that they must not harass or persecute them, and especially because of the facts set forth, the Undersigned is constrained to respectfully request that Mr. Chaplin be furnished a strong escort, and be honorably conducted into Hong-Kiang, and the authorities there directed to find a safe and suitable place which he can lease for missionary purposes, and that they be peremptorily instructed to render him and his associates full and complete protection in their work.

That this procedure may have the fullest potency, and its result be that which is best and most to be desired, it should be speedy and effective.

Hence it is requested that the matter shall have the immediate consideration of Your Highness and Your Excellencies and the Undersigned notified of the result.

The Undersigned avails of this occasion to assure Your Highness and Your Excellencies of his highest consideration.

No. 35

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 5th, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Case of maltreatment of E.D.Chapin by natives in Hu-nan. Tsungli Yamen has issued instructions for prompt and satisfactory settlement.

(Despatch No.34, September 1st, 1898.)

No. 35

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 5th, 1898.

To the Honorable

William R. Day,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

Referring to my despatch No.34, of the 1st instant,- I have the honor to inform you that I have today received a reply from the Tsungli Yamen, a translation of which is herewith enclosed, in which I am informed that orders have been sent to the Governor of Hu-nan, directing him to instruct the local officials to make a prompt and satisfactory settlement of the case and to offer Mr. Chapin and his associates every protection, to escort them back to Hung-chiang and give them every assistance in the purchase of property.

Mr. Chapin has been advised to call upon the local officials for the necessary escort, protection and aid in securing a place for missionary work and to make an early

report

report to this Legation.

The Department will be informed of the final settlement of this case.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

Enclosure.

Translation of the note of the Tsungli Yamen to Mr.Conger,dated September 2nd,1898.

Enclosure No. in Despatch No. 35.

The Tsungli Yamen to Mr. Conger.

No. II.

Peking, September 2nd, 1898.

Your Excellency,

On the 27th of August last the Prince and Ministers had the honor to receive Your Excellency's note wherein you state that you have received through the United States Consul General at Shanghai, a detailed report of an attack upon an American missionary, Mr. E.D. Chapin, and his English associate, Mr. B.H.Alexander, by a mob, which resulted in the loss of their clothes, books and the burning of their boat etc. You further state that the details of the affair are very carefully given in the report, together with a frank account of a prompt and satisfactory settlement, between the local officials and Mr. Chapin.

Upon perusing the above report the Yamen was greatly greived and immediately sent orders to the Governor of Hunan ordering him to instruct the local officials to make a hasty and satisfactory settlement of the case and to afford Mr. Chapin and his associate every protection, to escort them back to Hung-chiang and give them every assistance in purchasing property.

As soon as a reply is received from the local officials Your Excellency will be further notified. As in duty bound, we send this communication for your information.

A necessary communication sent to the Minister of the United States.

Enclosure No. in Despatch No. 32.

The Tsungli Yamen to Mr. Conger.

No. II.

Peking, September 2nd, 1898.

Your Excellency,

On the 27th of August last the Princes and Ministers had the honor to receive Your Excellency's note wherein you state that you have received through the United States Consul General at Shanghai, a detailed report of an attack upon an American missionary, Mr. E.D. Chapin, and his English associate, Mr. E.H.Alexander, by a mob, which resulted in the loss of their clothes, books and the burning of their boat etc. You further state that the details of the affair are very carefully given in the report together with a frank account of a prompt and satisfactory settlement, between the local officials and Mr. Chapin.

Upon perusing the above report the Yamen was greatly grieved and immediately sent orders to the Governor of Hunan ordering him to instruct the local officials to make a hasty and satisfactory settlement of the case and to afford Mr. Chapin and his associate every protection, to escort them back to Hung-chiang and give them every assistance in purchasing property.

As soon as a reply is received from the local officials Your Excellency will be further notified. As in duty bound, we send this communication for your information.

A necessary communication sent to the Minister of the United States.

No. 36

DIPLOMATIC,
OCT 25 1898
BUREAU

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
Ack. Give to press and refer to Mr. Foss to print in Advance Sheets.
OCT 25 1898

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D,
24 OCT 1898
DEPT. OF STATE

Peking, China, September 6th, 1898.

PRINTED IN ADVANCE SHEETS NO. 354

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Tsintau (Kiaochou) was opened as Free Port on the 2nd of September, 1898.

No. 3.

CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Perkins, Bush, Coyle: 27 Sept. 1787.

Mr. Coupon to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Talents (Education) not opened as Free Port in the

End of September, 1787.

No. 36

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 6th, 1898.

To the Honorable

William R. Day,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

I have the honor to inform you, that it has been reported to me by the United States Consul at Chefoo, that he was, on the 2nd instant, officially notified, by His Imperial German Majesty's Consul at that place, Dr. Lenz, that the port of Tsintau (Kiaochau) had that day been opened as a Free Port.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

No. 31.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Tangier, September 27, 1870.

To the Honorable

William H. Seward,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to inform you, that it has been reported to me by the United States Consul at Oporto, that the Mad Queen, officially notified by the Imperial Porte of Turkey (Mahmoud) that she had been elected as a Free Port.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

No. 37

DIPLOMATIC,
OCT 25 1898
BUREAU.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
OCT 25 1898

Ack. and commend Mr. Conger's advice to Mr. Johnson. The allegation of the Chinaman "George Williams" citizenship should be rigidly scrutinized having in view the statute prohibiting the admission of Chinese to citizenship.
AAA

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 6th, 1898.

Ans'd Oct. 29/98
C.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Case of George Williams.

No. 37

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 6th, 1898.

To the Honorable

William R. Day,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to enclose to you for your information copies of the correspondence between this Legation and the United States Consul at Amoy in regard to the case of George Williams, who claims to be an American citizen.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

Enclosures.

1. A. Burlingame Johnson, to Mr. Conger, July 15th, 1898.

2. Mr. Conger to A. Burlingame Johnson, Aug. 10th, 1898.

Enclosure No. 1 in Despatch No. 37.

NO.33.

CONSULATE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Amoy, China, July 25th 1898.

Honorable E.H.Conger,,

U.S.E.E.& M.P.

Peking.

Sir:

I have the honor to report to you for your advice and instructions a case now pending in this Consulate. Some of the elements are unusual hence my duty is not so clear to me as to warrant the decided stand I usually take in all matters affecting property rights.

That you may be fully advised I beg to state that at Amoy there are many hundred Chinese who owe allegiance to to Foreign Countries and who are under the protection of their respective Consuls. These foreign Chinese are usually wealthy merchants of the port and many of them have business houses, usually under the direct management of a native, in the cities near Amoy, say within thirty miles. It has been the custom for the local officials to protect these property rights outside the immediate port of Amoy. Even foreign Chinese often manage their own business in these adjacent towns and reside there. Where trouble arises the local magistrates and foreign Consuls adjust matters in the same manner as they would if the business were located directly in the treaty port city.

I have recognized the right of Americans to operate in these adjacent towns and if they chose to reside there I should in the absence of specific instructions support them in that also as being justified under the most favored nation

Enclosure No. 1 in Despatch No. 37.

NO.83.

CONSULATE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Amoy, China, July 25th 1898.

Honorable E.H.Conger,

U.S.E.E.& M.P.

Peking.

Sir:

I have the honor to report to you for your advice and instructions a case now pending in this Consulate. Some of the elements are unusual hence my duty is not so clear to me as to warrant the decided stand I usually take in all matters affecting property rights.

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I have recognized the right of Americans to operate in these adjacent towns and if they chose to reside there I should in the absence of specific instructions support them in that acts as being justified under the most favored nation

clause of the treaty, as I suppose an American would be permitted to do business in the City of Peking now since a few merchants of other nationalities are protected in that privilege.

About a month ago a store belonging to Geo. Williams, an American Chinese subject, located at Shih-ma, about twelve miles from Amoy and under the management of his uncle was seized during the absence of the manager by a man who had loaned the manager $II0. assisted by a Ist degree literati and a constable of the village. Between &7000.00 and $8000.0 worth of goods were taken and the son of the manager lodged in jail. I requested the Taotai to order that the store be restored to its owner, the son released and their bill if they had any sent to me and I would see that it was paid. He complied and directed the Sub-Prefect to carry out the instructions. It appears that the delivery of this order was delayed by methods so well known to the Celestial and the aggressors proceeded to sell off the goods. A second demand from me brought more peremptory orders from the Taotai. At this point the Spanish Preist interfered. He wrote a despatch to the Taotai in which he took up my note and proceeded to show wherein it did not represent as he alleged the facts. A copy of this Preist's despatch the Taotai sent me. It alleged Geo. Williams store had gone into bankruptcy and that the constable and Ist degree Literati had simply seized the property under the law to protect a debt as they alleged of $230 and not $II0 as claimed by Williams. The priest notified the Taotai that the party to whom this money was owed and who seized the store was a member of the Spanish Mission and hence

clause of the treaty, as I suppose an American would be permitted to do business in the City of Peking now since a few merchants of other nationalities are protected in that privilege.

About a month ago a store belonging to Geo. Williams, an American Chinese subject, located at Shih-ma, about twelve miles from Amoy and under the management of his uncle was seized during the absence of the manager by a man who had loaned the manager $110. assisted by a lot degree litterati and a constable of the village. Between $7000.00 and $8000.0 worth of goods were taken and the son of the manager lodged in jail. I requested the Taotai to order that the store be restored to its owner, the son released and their bill if they had any sent to me and I would see that it was paid. He complied and directed the Sub-Prefect to carry out the instructions. It appears that the delivery of this order was delayed by methods so well known to the Celestial and the aggressors proceeded to sell off the goods. A second demand from me brought more peremptory orders from the Taotai. At this point the Spanish Prelat interfered. He wrote a despatch to the Taotai in which he took up my note and proceeded to show wherein it did not represent as he alleged the facts. A copy of this Prelat's despatch the Taotai sent me. It alleged Geo. Williams store had gone into bankruptcy and that the constable and 1st degree Litterati had simply seized the property under the law to protect a debt as they alleged of $280 and not $110 as claimed by Williams. The prelat notified the Taotai that the party to whom this money was owed and who seized the store was a member of the Spanish Mission and hence

he advised the Taotai to leave the matter to the local authorities who had conspired with the priest and small creditor to spoil the store. It is a common thing for these priests to interfere and intimidate the officials and support members of their church in any aggresion until, it is allegd, many join the church as soon as they get into trouble. Thus this preist assumed a sort of advisory protectorate not only over the native officials, but also the band of out-laws who would appropriate $8000.00 worth of goods to liquidate a debt which they did not even claim exceeded $230.00

The priest's charge that the store had closed in bankruptcy was absolutely false, and this $230. is the only claim against it. They deny owing but $110 of the amount claimed hence the trouble. I at once addressed the Taotai a dispatch, a copy of which I here enclose you.

I have just received word that the son arrested has been released but many hundred dollars worth of goods have been disposed of and no doubt when they sufficiently lute the store to satisfy the petty officials and their protector the balsnce will be surrendered. As the case is not likely to be settled amicably and I will have a claim of a few thousand dollars in behalf of Geo Williams, I submit the matter to you now as I wish to have the benefit of your advie

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) A. Burlingame Johnson.

U.S.Consul.

Enclosure: Copy of Dispatch to Taotai.

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claimed hence the trouble. I at once addressed the Teotel a
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Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) A. Burlingame Johnson.

U.S.Consul.

Enclosure: Copy of Dispatch to Teotel.

Copy of dispatch to Taotai.

Taotai etc., etc. Chuang Chew:

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your dispatch and to thank you for your courteous and prompt attention. I have been quite willing for you to investigate this whole matter, hence I submitted it to you.

I beg to remind you that I acknowledged that Geo Williams owed Tsai Yun Kao a debt of $110. and I assured you that that I would not protect Americans in any efforts to avoid the payment of a just debt, or any other amount if it is shown that the above is not correct. He is not nor has been bankrupt and the store had not been closed for a day.

You send me a copy of a letter to you from the Spanish Priest on the subject. I beg to inform you that I cannot receive or consider any communication from a Spanish Priest or any other priest or missionary relating to my notes to you. If the Spanish Priest wishes to be heard by me on this subject he must communicate through the Spanish Consul when I will receive it.

I do not permit American Missionaries to interfere with Chinese local affairs nor will I recognize any other missionary who [redacted] to interfere.

If the Spanish Priest read my dispatch to you, which he seems to have a copy of, he knows he falsely represented it a as he falsely accused Mr. Williams store closing in bankrupty

All these goods will be lost very soon if you listen to the Spanish Priest. These I shall be compelled to demand that all the loss and damage tonto the American be made good and your government must pay up the loss.

I

Copy of dispatch to Taotai.

Taotai etc., etc. Chuang Chow:

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I

I wish to be fair with you and give you a chance to compel the parties to return the store and release the son from jail.

I assured you that all the money due would be paid in full. Let them present their claim and I will pay them. This was evidence to you that I intended no injustice. Meddling priests would better attend to their religious duties and leave to their consuls official communications which relate to American affairs. I am still quite certain that the constable, Ist degree literati and other petty officiaks have conspired with the Priest and the chief aggressor to forcibly & wrongfully appropriate this store. Hence I request you to at once order the release of the son and the store and order them to present their claims to me where they will be paid You will observe that I only ask what the treaty with America guaranties. Should you permit further violation of the treaty it will cause you very serious trouble.

In former dealings you have shown me that you are a fair and honest official hence I trusted you in this matter and and have been lenient. I still have confidence in you and expect you to take prompt action in this matter in order that the happy relations may not be marred.

Syd.

Copy of dispatch to Taotai.

Taotai etc., etc. Chungking Chow:

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your dispatch and to thank you for your courteous and prompt attention. I have been quite willing for you to investigate this whole matter, hence I submitted it to you.

I beg to remind you that I acknowledged that Geo Williams owed Tsai Yun Kao a debt of $110. and I assured you that I would not protect Americans in any efforts to avoid the payment of a just debt, or any other amount if it is shown that the above is not correct. He is not nor has been bankrupt and the store had not been closed for a day.

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Sgd.

Enclosure No. 2 in Despatch No. 37.

No. 46

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, August 10th, 1898.

A.Burlingame Johnson,Esq.,

United States Consul,

Amoy.

Sir:-

Your No. 33 of the 15th ultimo is received, in which you state that one George Williams, an American- Chinese subject, was the owner of a store located at Shih-ma, about twelve miles from the Treaty Port of Amoy, which was managedby his uncle, and that under the pretence of collecting a Small debt of $110.00, his stock of goods, amounting to between $7000.00 and $8000.00, was seized by the local constable, and the son of the manager imprisoned.

That you requested the Taotai to order the goods restored, the son released and their bill, if [redacted] had one, sent to you and you would see that it was paid.

The son has been released;but the goods are not yet returned.

You enclose copy of your last note to the Taotai. You state further, that it is the custom for foreign merchants living in Amoy, to conduct business houses under the management of natives in various cities within a radius of thirty miles outside of the Treaty Port, and that it is the custom for the local officers to protect these parties in their business.

You also state that you have recognized the right of Americans to operate in these adjacent towns and that if they chose

Enclosure No. 2 in Despatch No. 37.

No. 46

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, August 10th, 1888.

A.Burlingame Johnson,Esq.,

United States Consul,

Amoy.

Sir:-

Your No. 32 of the 15th ultimo is received, in which you state that one George Williams, an American- Chinese subject, was the owner of a store located at Shih-ma, about w twelve miles from the Treaty Port of Amoy, which was managed by his uncle, and that under the pretence of collecting a small debt of $110.00, his stock of goods, amounting to betwe tween $7000.00 and $8000.00, was seized by the local constable, and the son of the manager imprisoned.

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You also state that you have recognized this right of Americans to operate in these adjacent towns and that if they chose

chose to reside there you would in the absence of specific instructions, support them in that also, as being justified under the most favored clause of the Treaty, and ask my advice in the matter.

In the first place you should satisfy yourself by a sufficient and positive proof that Mr. Williams is in fact a citizen of the United States, and in the second place to clearly bring the matter under the most favored nation clause, the fact should be clearly established that the merchants of other nationalities have been officially authorized or permitted to carry on business in those towns near, but outside of the Treaty Port of Amoy, and have in cases of trouble been given substantial official protection. It will not be sufficient to show that they have simply been tolerated there, i.e. that they have not been ordered away, or back to the limits of the Treaty Port.

It does not follow, because a few foreign merchants have, unauthorized, opened stores in Peking, and have been unmolested,- that official protection could be demanded for other foreigners who might get into trouble under the same unauthorized attempt to do business there.

However, you are perfectly justified in employing your good offices with the local officials, to bring about a settlement, according to the rules practiced with other foreigners, for any citizens of the United States who may be in business trouble in these outside towns, while following a precedent already established.

But of course you could not make the same peremptory demands for redress as in case of violation of unquestionable treaty rights.

I am, sir, etc.

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I am, Sir, etc.

DEPT. OF STATE
SEP 9,9.44 AM 1898
CHF. CLKS. OFFICE
RECEIVED

TELEGRAM RECEIVED.

9 York

From Peking

Sept 9, 1898.

Received 9, 4.10 A.M.

Moore,
Acting,
Washington.

Cont'd Sept. 13.

Renewal on old lines
recommended

Conger

I am sir, etc.

Legation of the United States

Peking. September 13, 1898

Rec'd Sept 16.

Copies to the President

Form No. 1516. **CABLE MESSAGE.**

THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

INCORPORATED

ALL CABLE MESSAGES received for transmission must be written on the Message Blanks provided by this Company for that purpose, under and subject to the conditions printed thereon, and on the back hereof, which conditions have been agreed to by the sender of the following message.

THOS. T. ECKERT, President and General Manager.

TWO AMERICAN CABLES FROM NEW YORK TO GREAT BRITAIN.
CONNECTS ALSO WITH FIVE ANGLO-AMERICAN AND ONE DIRECT U. S. ATLANTIC CABLES.
DIRECT CABLE COMMUNICATION WITH GERMANY AND FRANCE.
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GLASGOW: No. 29 Gordon St. and No. 4 Waterloo St.
BRISTOL: Backhall Chambers.

RECEIVED at Washn DC SEPT 13th'98. 189

1 Co. Nq. Cg.

Peking 26

Day,

WASHINGTON.

Li Hung Chang and ching Hsin are dismissed from foreign office it is believed in execution of emperor's plan of general reform

Conger.

620 A.M. Sept 13th.

Indexed under China.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,

Washington, September 13, 1898.

This agreement made this thirteenth day of September, A.D. 1898, by and between Charles Denby, party of the first part, and the United States of America, by *William R. Day*, Secretary of State, party of the second part, witnesseth:-

1st. That the party of the first part has agreed to lease and does hereby lease to the party of the second part, for and during the term hereinafter mentioned, for the use of the Legation of the United States at Peking, the grounds and buildings now occupied by said Legation, which are described and delineated in a despatch, dated August 10th, 1875, and numbered 86, addressed by the late Benj. P. Avery, when Minister of the United States at Peking, to the Secretary of State of the United States, and also in Minister Denby's despatch No. 1755 of November 3, 1893; and the party of the second part has agreed to take and does hereby take from the party of the first part the said grounds and buildings and agrees to pay rent therefor as hereinafter prescribed.

2nd. That this lease is made and accepted for the term of four years, beginning on the first day of July, 1898, and ending on the 30th day of June 1902.

3rd. That the sum to be paid to the party of the first part as rental of the said premises shall be Three Thousand and Five Hundred Dollars ($3,500) a year. Said sum shall be paid in equal quarterly instalments at the expiration of each and every quarter, through drafts drawn by the Diplomatic Representative of the United States for the time being at Peking, on the Secretary of State of the United States, in favor of the said party of the first part, or his agent duly appointed and authorized by writing filed in the Department of State. Provided if Congress should fail to appropriate for the payment of rent for said property, during any year of said term, as much as $3,500, the quarterly drafts and pay-

ments in such case shall only be one fourth of the amount actually appropriated.

4th. That the said quarterly payments shall be subject to a deduction of One Hundred and Fifty Dollars ($150) each quarter, Six Hundred Dollars ($600) per year, to be applied under the direction of the Diplomatic Representative of the United States at Peking to such repairs of the buildings, walls, walks and drains as may be necessary or required; and the party of the first part shall not be at any further expense for ordinary repairs. And any surplus of the Six Hundred Dollars deducted, as above provided, which may not be needed for repairs in any one year, shall be returned to the party of the first part.

5th. That in case the buildings hereinbefore referred to and described, or any of them, shall become untenantable or unfit for the purpose for which they are rented, by reason of fire or any other cause than natural agency, the rent there of or a proportionate part as may be just shall cease until such building or buildings shall have been reconstructed or repaired by the party of the first part or his agent, to the satisfaction of the party of the second part, acting through its representative at Peking.

6th. That the party of the first part shall appoint an agent residing at Peking, who shall in conjunction with the Diplomatic representative there, designate and agree to all repairs and constructions that may be made in or upon the Legation premises, and whose voucher shall be sufficient proof of the necessity of such repairs or constructions, and of payment thereof.

7th. That the party of the second part shall have the option of renewing this lease, upon the terms and conditions herein expressed for a further term of four years, unless before the first day of July, 1900, the party of the first part gives notice of a desire not to renew.

8th. That should the United States Government at any time during the existence of this lease purchase the said premises, the rent shall terminate on the day of the purchase, and of the $60 chargeable annually on the rent for repairs, there shall be allowed to the party of the second part (including the amount already received by it) such proportion, as the part of the current year which at that time shall have elapsed, bears to the whole year, and no more.

In witness whereof the parties hereunto set their hands and seals at Washington, D. C., on this thirteenth day of September, 1898.

Witness
Frank H. Brundage

Charles Denby
William R. Day

No. 38.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 14th, 1898.

Oct. 25 98

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Dismissal of Li Hung Chang and Ching Hsin from the Tsungli Yamen. Appointment of Yu Lu to one of the vacancies.

No. 38

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 14th, 1898.

To the Honorable

William R. Day,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

I have the honor to confirm my telegram of the 9th instant, a copy of which is hereto appended on the overleaf, and to enclose translation of Decree effecting the dismissal.

The immediate cause for the removal of these men is not yet clear; but may be known later. It appears that certain leaders of reform, who have influence with the Emperor, are determined to make a clean sweep of old ways and old ministers in order to make room for themselves and their friends.

The Empress Dowager, whose hand has heretofore controlled everything, seems to have lost some of its potency; and the Emperor must have made this move regardless of her, because she can hardly be supposed to have willingly

consented

consented to the dismissal of such a loyal supporter of her dynasty as Li Hung Chang has been during four reigns.

This discord in the palace may lead up to an early crisis;but it is beleived the Emperor and his friends are sufficiently strong to prevent its being very serious.

Li Hung Chang still retains his office as Senior Grand Secretary;but he is shorn of power and influence and he feels the degradation keenly.

Yü Lu,who has been appointed to fill one of the vacancies,was formerly Military Governor of Moukden,was promoted Viceroy of Szuchuan,and held this office up to the date of his recent appointment to the Tsungli Yamen.

The other vacancy has not as yet been filled.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

Enclosure.

Translation as above.

Telegram sent.

Peking, September 9th, 1898.

Day,

Washington.

Li Hung Chang and Ching Hsin are dismissed from Foreign Office. It is believed in execution of Emperor's plan of general reform.

(Signed.) Conger.

Enclosure in No. 38

Translation of an Imperial Decree published in the Peking Gazette of the 7th of September, 1898.

Li Hung-chang and Ching Hsin are relieved from further duties in the Tsungli Yamen.

No. 39

File

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 14th, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Renewal of lease of Legation premises.

Department's telegram of the 6th instant received and the Legation's reply thereto of the 9th instant confirmed.

No. 19.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 14th, 1898.

To the Honorable

William R. Day,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Department's telegram of the 6th instant and to confirm my reply thereto of the 9th instant, copies of which are hereto appended on the overleaf.

The rental seems high and I very much doubt if the amount allowed for repairs will prove sufficient. Yet it is the only place in Peking at all suitable that can be rented, In fact I beleive it would be impossible to rent another place.

Ours is the only government occupying rented premises in Peking. It ought by all means to own its legation and it would be a great saving to do so.

The present site enlarged by the purchase of additional ground, which could be secured at a very reasonable

price

price,and with the present buildings remodeled,would make a very comfortable and respectable legation,though much inferior to those owned by other governments,or other grounds might be purchased elsewhere,and entirely new buildings erected.

In either case,a reasonable interest on the amount invested,would amount to only about one-half the present rental. Please refer to Mr.Denby's No.2556,of December 4th,1896,on the same subject.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

Telegram received.

Washington, September 6th, 1898.

Conger,

Minister,

Peking.

Do you recommend renewal lease legation premises on old lines.

(Signed) Moore.

Acting.

Telegram sent.

Peking, September 9th, 1898.

Moore,

Acting,

Washington.

Renewal on old lines recommended.

(Signed) Conger.

No. 40

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 14th, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Needs of the United States Consulate at Canton.

No Marshal or jail for the safe custody of prisoners pending trial.

No. 40

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 14th, 1898.

To the Honorable

William R. Day,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to enclose two clippings from the Hongkong Telegraph of the 24th ultimo, received from the United States Consul at Canton, in regard to the necessity for a Marshal at that Consulate and the deportation of a United States prisoner to Hongkong as there was no jail for his safe custody pending trial.

The matter is referred without recommendation as the Department has a better understanding of the situation and a more definite knowledge of the needs of the Consulate than I have as yet had opportunity to acquire.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

Enclosure.

Newspaper clippings as above.

Enclosure in Despatch # 40.

From the Hong Kong Telegraph Aug. 24th 1898.

A STRANGE CASE.

There are many peculiar things that may happen to a foreigner in the Far East especially if he happens to forget his name. A case in point occurred the other day at Canton. A foreigner, lately in the Chinese Customs service, got under the influence of the weather, the local whisky or something else. Anyway he was decidedly drunk and disorderly. In his exuberance he threw a Chinaman into the river. On being arrested his name was given as De Moulin and he was forthwith taken to the French consulate. After a little sojourn there the roysterer's name was sized up as Müller, about the most unFrench name one could wish for. He was then sent to the German Consulate where his name was made out to be Mullen. The Teutons passed the man over to the representative of Great Britain and he was locked up till next morning and when sober told the officials that he was "a bean-eater from Boston." Then he was handed over to Dr. Bedloe, the U.S. Consul, and as the Consul had no U.S. Marshal nor a place to keep the culprit in he was sent down to Hongkong where he was discharged. The term "pillar to post" is often heard of and this affords a striking illustration of it.

With reference to a paragraph headed "A Strange Case," appearing in another column, we should like it to be generally understood that we do not intend to criticise the action of the American Consul at Canton in deporting an undesirable character to this Colony. Consul BEDLOE had, as a matter of fact, no other alternative than to do so. The American Consulate in Canton is the only one in that city that is not provided with a jail in which to confine criminals, nor with a marshal or constable to arrest or guard lawbreakers. In the case of Captain TUHLMAN of the *Destro* the American Consul at Canton was obliged to borrow the British Consular Jail for his reception, otherwise he could not have been kept in safe custody pending trial. As a matter of fact the United States possess no means whatever for dealing with lawbreakers in Canton, Consul BEDLOE occupying the position of a veritable Poobah, being Consul, Judge, Marshal, Constable, Jailer and Executioner all rolled into one.

* * *

It appears to us to be an absurdity upon the part of the Government of the United States to exact extraterritoriality from the Chinese Empire and yet to make no sufficient provision for the due carrying out of the law. With the exception of Shanghai there is no provision made at any of the treaty ports for the punishment of American citizens who may have offended against the laws of the United States or against those of China. Shanghai does possess a U.S. Consular Jail we are informed, and this is the reason that Captain TUHLMAN has been sent to that port pending his trial. It is high time that the Government of the United States took steps to make adequate provision for the arrest and punishment of guilty citizens in Canton, and so save Hongkong from becoming a dumping ground for undesirable characters.

No. 41

Oct. 26/98

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 15th, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: The two new by-laws, No. 8 and 34, attached to the Land Regulations of the Foreign Settlements at Shanghai, have been approved.

No. 44

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 15th, 1898.

To the Honorable

William R. Day,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to inform you that I approved, on the 10th instant, the two new by-laws, No. 8 and 34, attached to the Land Regulations of the Foreign Settlements at Shanghai; they having been passed by the rate payers of Shanghai at a special meeting, duly published and agreed to by the local consular body.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

Enclosure:

Copy of the by-laws as above.

Enclosure No.— in Despatch No. 41

PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF BY-LAW VIII.

Drainage—No new building shall be erected nor shall any old building be rebuilt until arrangements shall have been made and approved whereby the land forming or to form the site thereof shall be raised to such a height having regard to the centre of the nearest public road as the Municipal Council may require and all alleyways leading to or adjoining such buildings shall be raised and drained by the person building to the satisfaction of the Municipal Council, and whoever shall commence to erect any new building or to rebuild any old building and who shall fail to comply with the provisions of this Bye-law shall be liable for every such offence to a fine not exceeding TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY DOLLARS, and it shall be lawful for the Municipal Council to stop any such building or rebuilding until the provisions of this Bye-law have been complied with.

No new building shall be erected nor shall any old building be rebuilt without such drain or drains constructed of such dimensions and materials and at such level and with such fall as may appear to the Municipal Council to be necessary and sufficient for the proper and effectual drainage of such building and its appurtenances, and if a public sewer or a sewer which the Municipal Council are entitled to use be within one hundred feet of any part of the site of such building the drain or drains so to be constructed shall lead to and communicate with such sewer in such manner as the Municipal Council may direct, or if no such sewer be within that distance then the last-mentioned drain or drains may at the option of the person building communicate with and be emptied into the nearest of such sewers or into such covered cesspool or other place as the Municipal Council may direct and whoever shall erect any new building or rebuild any old building or construct any drain contrary to this Bye-law shall be liable for every such offence to a fine not exceeding TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY DOLLARS and if at any time the Municipal Council shall discover that any building whether built before or after the passing of this Bye-law is without such a drain or drains as is or are sufficient for the proper and effectual drainage of the same and its appurtenances and if a sewer of the Municipal Council or a sewer which they are entitled to use be within one hundred feet of any part of such building they may cause notice in writing to be given to the owner or occupier of such building requiring him within such reasonable time as shall be specified therein to construct and lay down in connection with such building one or more drain or drains communicating with such sewer of such materials and dimensions at such level and with such falls as shall appear to be necessary and if such notice be not complied with the Municipal Council may if they think fit do the works mentioned or referred to therein and the expenses incurred by them in so doing if not forthwith paid by the owner or occupier shall be defrayed by the Municipal Council and such expenses shall be recoverable from the owner of the building as damages.

Fourteen clear days before it is intended to commence the erection of any new building or the rebuilding of any old building a block plan of the land shewing the buildings to be erected thereon shall be submitted to the Municipal Council for their approval. On such plan there shall be clearly marked:—

(a)—The intended height of the land compared with the centre of the nearest public road.

(b)—The position and dimensions of all drains and sewers already constructed or intended to be constructed in connection with such buildings.

(c)—The position and dimensions of all intended fire-walls.

(d)—The height above the roadway and the width of all intended projections into or over any public road.

Within fourteen days after the said plan shall have been submitted to the Municipal Council the latter shall signify to the person submitting such plan their approval or disapproval with reasons expressed generally for any disapproval of the same and no building operations shall be commenced until the Municipal Council have signified their approval of the said plan, it being understood that in the event of the Council failing to express either approval or disapproval with reasons as above within the above named period all parties shall be at liberty to proceed as if no such approval were required.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF BYE-LAW XXXIV.

Licenses.—No person shall open or keep a Fair, Market, house or place of Public Entertainment, Music Hall, Theatre, Circus, Billiard, Bowling or Dancing Saloon, Brothel or Pawnshop, Dairy, or Laundry Shop, or Store, for the sale of Wines, Spirits, Beer, Intoxicating or other Drugs, Butcher's Meat, Poultry or Game, Slaughter House or Livery Stable, or sell or vend any Wines, Spirits, Beer, Intoxicating or other Drugs, Butcher's Meat, Poultry or Game, or keep for private use or ply, let or use for hire, any boat, horse or vehicle, within such limits, without a License first obtained from the Council, and in the case of Foreigners countersigned by the Consul of the nationality to which such person belongs. In respect of such licenses, the Council may impose such conditions and exact such security as the nature of the particular case may require, and charge such fees in respect thereof as may be authorized at the Annual General Meeting of Ratepayers. And any person offending against or infringing the provisions of this Bye-Law shall be liable for every offence to a fine not exceeding ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS, and a further fine for every twenty-four hours' continuance of such offending or infringing not exceeding TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS.

No. 42

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 15th, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Rec'd Nov. 8

Subject: Request for a supply of wire, leads and die stamp for sealing mail pouches.

No. 42

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 15th, 1898.

To the Honorable

William R. Day,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to request that the Legation be supplied with wire, leads and die stamp for sealing mail pouches.

The Department's mail pouches are now being received regularly and in good order. The Legation's mail will hereafter be transmitted by the return pouch.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

No. 43

File

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 15th, 1898

Mr. Conger to the Secretary of State.

Subject: Continuation of the United States Postal Agency at Shanghai.

(Instruction No. 8, July 20th, 1898).

No. 43

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 15th, 1898.

To the Honorable

William R. Day,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of the Department's instruction, No. 8, of July 20th, 1898, with enclosures, advising me of the decision of the Postmaster General to continue the United States Postal Agency at Shanghai until the Imperial Chinese Postal Service is more completely established.

I am sure this decision is wise.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

No. 44

File

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 16th, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Proposed visit of the Emperor to Tientsin.

No. 44

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 16th, 1898.

To the Honorable

William R. Day,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

I have the honor to enclose a translation of a recent decree of the Emperor in regard to his proposed visit to Tientsin,

and to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

Enclosure.

Translation as above.

Enclosure in No. 44

Translation of an Imperial Decree, published in the Peking Gazette August 24th, 1898.

For the inspection of the foreign drilled troops of the Empire the Emperor will, in respectful obedience to the desires of the Empress Dowager, accompany her on a visit to Tientsin.

The start will be made from the Summer Palace on the 5th day of the 9th moon (19th of October, 1898) and the first halt will be made in the old palace in the Southern Hunting Park. On the 6th We will stop in the new palace. On the 7th We will stop at the T'uan River. On the 9th there will be an Imperial review of the mounted and unmounted archery in front of the Lung Ch'ing Gate. On the 10th We will review the Peking Field Force. On the 11th We will inspect the foreign drilled troops. On the 15th We will start from the T'uan River and will take the train for Tientsin where We will stop in the palace which has been prepared for this occasion. On the 25th We will return from Tientsin by way of the Southern Hunting Park. Let all the Yamens concerned take notice and make the necessary preparations.

No. 45

DIPLOMATIC,
OCT 25 1898

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
Ack. by Number and File.
OCT 25 1898

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D.
24 OCT 1898
DEPT. OF STATE

Peking, China, September 16th, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Railway concessions recently secured by the English.

No. 45

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 16th, 1898.

To the Honorable

William R. Day,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

I have the honor to report that the following rail-road concessions have recently been secured by the English:

1. A line from Kowloong to Canton.
2. A line along the coast from Shanghai to Canton.
3. A line along the Yangtsze west from Nanking.
4. For the Peking syndicate, a line they have been urging from Yellow river south towards Hankow to Liang Yang, a town on the Han river in northern Hu Pei, which gives the syndicate access to Yangtsze valley, in addition to the connection they are free to make in the north with Peking-Hankow line.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

No. 46

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 17th, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Charges made against the United States Consul and Interpreter at Canton by the Viceroy at that place.

(Instruction No. 14, August 2nd, 1898.)

No. 46

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 17th, 1898.

To the Honorable

William R. Day,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Department's instruction No.14, of the 2nd ultimo, in regard to certain charges made against the United States Consul and Interpreter at Canton by the Viceroy at that place, and that the Department will be pleased to receive any information I may be able to gather on the subject.

In reply I beg to say that at this distance it will not be possible for me to obtain any information other than that already known to the Department.

/1 These charges were brought to the attention of Minister Denby June 9th last, by the Tsungli Yamen, and were /2 returned by him on the following 23rd. Copies of both notes

are

are enclosed herewith.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

Enclosures:

1. The Tsungli Yamen to Mr.Denby,June 9th,1898.

2. Mr.Denby to the Tsungli Yamen,June 23rd,1898.

Enclosure No 7. in Despatch No. 46.

THE TSUNGLI YAMEN TO MR. DENBY.

No. I7.

Peking, June 9th, I898.

Your Excellency,

The Prince and Ministers have the honor to inform the Minister of the United States that on the 3rd inst they received a communication from the Viceroy & of the Two Kuang provinces stating that " the American Consul, Mr. Edwin Bedloe, had only been at his post for a short time, and that he could neither read nor speak Chinese. He listens to the statements made by his Interpreter, a Chinaman named Chung Chi Kuang, and there has been more than one case of a violation of Treaty stipulations. The feelings of the people in consequence, have become aroused with anger almost resulting in trouble. Mr. E.B.Drew, Commisioner of Customs, an American citizen, has stated "that an American Consul who is not respectable and honorable lessens very much the reputatin of his country, and that the United States Minister, Colonel Denby, knows well the class of man Mr. Consul Bedloe is."

The Viceroy requests that the Yamen communicate with Col. Denby, the U.S.Minister, asking him to telegraph at once to the Consul at Canton ordering that the Interpreter Mr.Chung be at once expelled from office. As to whether Mr. Consul Bedloe shouldbe removed from office or transferred to another post, this is a matter for the United States Minister to deliberate and decide upon. It may be observed that Mr. Seymour, formerly U.S. Consul at Canton, held his position for more than ten years. Everybody knew him to be a man, even-tempered, just and upright. Mr. Alvfred Alf was also a safe and satisfactory person.

The

Enclosure No 1 in Despatch No. 46.

THE TSUNGLI YAMEN TO MR. DENBY.

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The Viceroy presents as an enclosure a paper showing the cases, as evidence, of Mr. Consul Bedloe's and Mr. Interpreter Chung's violation of Treaty stipulations and of causing trouble, requesting that it be submitted to the U.S.Minister Col. Denby, for his action in the premises.

The Prince and Ministers would observe that the treaties provide for the establishment of foreign consulates in China. Consuls should follow and attend their proper official duties If ,as is stated in the Viceroy's enclosurethat Mr. Consul Bedloe had summoned Chinese to his consulate to confront each other in evidence and that he had posted in a Chinese shop a proclamation stating that the house had been bought by the U.S.Minister from the Tsu ngli Yamen,-which had aroused a feeling of indignation among the people almost resulting in trouble, then it may be observed that such acts are entirely at variance with Treaty Stipulations.

The Yamen therefore enclose copy of the paper transmitted by the Viceroy at Canton for the perusal of the Minister of the United States, and begs that he will telegraph to the U.S Consul at Canton, that whenever cases of an international nature come before him, they must be treated in accordance with the stipula tions of Treaty.

As to the Interpreter Mr. Chung,he is a class of man whose actions do not harmonize with the feelings of the people. If ear is to be given to his one-sided statements then the truth will be gross ly perverted and the facts misrepresented Such being the case it would be difficult to avoid trouble. It is right therefore, that he should be ordered at once

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to leave Canton, in order that the feeling of indignation prevalent among the populace may be set at rest. As to whether the U.S.Consul at Canton should be removed or transferred to another post, this is a question the Minister of the United States is requested to deliberate and decide upon.

The Prince and Ministers beg that the Minister of the United States will favor them with a reply to this communicatin and also be good enough to communicate its contents to the Hn Hon. Secretary of State.

To H.E.

Charles Denby.

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The Princes and Ministers beg that the Minister of the United States will favor them with a reply to this communication and also be good enough to communicate its contents to the Hon. Secretary of State.

To H.E.

Charles Denby.

Copy of Enclosure in communication to the Yamen from the Viceroy of Canton in the matter of the U.S.Consul at Canton, Mr. Edwin Bedloe, and the Interpreter, a Chinaman, named Chung Chi-Kuang violating the stipulations of Treaty, &c.

The U.S.Consul addressed a communication to the magistrate of the Pan-Yü district stating that a woman named Ma Chiu, a naturalized American, had lodged a complaint before him against Chen-Chih-po to the effect that he owed her a sum of money which he refused to pay; that he had summoned both parties to appear at the Consulate so that their evidence could betaken. Chen-Chih-po after leaving the Consulate immediately fled. A man named Chen-hi-hsien was thereupon sent to the magistrate's yamen.

In cases where Chinese owe money it is right that a communication should sent to the local authorities to investigate the matter and take steps to recover the amount owing. How can it be allowed that a Consul, on his own accord, should summon the parties to appear at his Consulate and examine them personally? But the Consul, in his communication, stated still the truth had not been arrived at, and when Chen-Chihpo came to the Consulate under summons, he ordered Chung Chi-Kuang to examine him. Chung Chi-Kuang then said to him that he would lock him up. Chen Chih-po, seizing an opportunity, made his escape. The above facts are perfectly true.

The Pan Yü magistrate further reported that at 4 o'clock P.M. on the 6th of May last, the U.S.Consul together with his Interpreter, Mr. Chung, suddenly appeared at this yamen. Their language and expression on their faces showed that they were

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The Pan Yü magistrate further reported that at 4 o'clock P.M. on the 8th of May last, the U.S.Consul together with his Interpreter, Mr. Chung, suddenly appeared at this Yamen. Their language and expression on their faces showed that they were

angry and they used words of a threatening nature. They insisted on trying the case with the Pan Yü magistrate, but the complainant, Ma Chiu, failed to appear in court. The Consul requested the Pan Yu magistrate to take steps to recover the debt but this he refused to do.

That the Consul summoned a Chinese subject, examined him and had him imprisoned there is his despatch has evidence. The petition of the magistrate may be taken as evidence that the Consul and his Interpreter went to the magistrate's yamen and behaved badly.

The land in front of the Customs is Government property. For the natives to encroach on it and put up a building for the purpose of harboring evil-doers who smuggle is very much against and injurious to the public interests. The Commissioner of Customs Mr. E.B.Drew, discussed the question with the Superintendent of the Lekinoffice. Money was subscribed and the headmen of the 16th Ward were instructed to build a stone road on the place, expel the evil-doers and to recover the house or houses on the Government land so that trade could be carried on there. This plan was pleasing to all the people excepting Mr. Yang,the owner of the Ta Feng Nien shop, who went to the U.S.Consul about the matter. The Consul instructed his interpreter to write a proclamation which was sealed and posted in the shop notifying the Chinese that the shop had been bought by the United States Minister from the Tsungli Yamen and that no questions should be asked.The people of the 16th Ward were excited and enraged at this

angry and they used words of a threatening nature. They insisted on trying the case with the Pan Yu magistrate, but the complainant, Ma Chiu, failed to appear in court. The Consul requested the Pan Yu magistrate to take steps to recover the debt but this he refused to do.

That the Consul summoned a Chinese subject, examined him and had him imprisoned there is his despatch has evidence. The petition of the magistrate may be taken as evidence that the Consul and his Interpreter went to the magistrate's yamen and behaved badly.

The land in front of the Customs is Government property. For the natives to encroach on it and put up a building for the purpose of harboring evil-doers who smuggle is very much against and injurious to the public interests. The Commissioner of Customs Mr. E.S.Drew, discussed the question with the Superintendent of the Lekimoffice, Money was subscribed and the headmen of the 10th Ward were instructed to build a stone road on the place, expel the evil-doers and to recover the house or houses on the Government land so that trade could be carried on there. This plan was pleasing to all the people excepting Mr. Yang,the owner of the Ta Tang Mien shop, who went to the U.S.Consul about the matter. The Consul instructed his Interpreter to write a proclamation which was sealed and posted in the shop notifying they Chinese that the shop had been bought by the United States Minister from the Tsungli Yamen and that no questions should be asked.The people of the 10th Ward were excited and enraged at this

proceeding and said how could a Consul have the right to post a proclamation in a Chinese shop for the information of Chinese subjects? They also said that the Chinese officials should be requested to post proclamations in the foreign hong on notifying foreigners that they cannot be permitted to to interfere in Chinese matters. The populace were angry and a disturbance nearly transpired.

Again hitherto there have been no cases of the Tsungli Yamen selling Chinese property and houses to Foreign Ministers. How dare a proclamation of the kind be issued in violation of treaty?

A copy of the Consul's proclamation has been furnished by the Customs, as under:-

"Proclamation issued by U.S.Consul Bedloe for general information. Whereas I have received from one Lo-hsiang as follows: Proclamations have been issued by the Chinese authorities that repairs are to be made on bund known as Hsin Chi Tu Tao, and that ten days will be allowed those who have encroached on the Government land on the bank by placing tiles and stones to remove them. The property of the petitioner is that known to have been purchased by the United States Minister from the Tsungli Yamen and there is a record on file which can be seen. The yamen police however have tried to expel me from the place and I therefore beg the U.S.Consul to address the local authorities in the matter."

Having received the above petition, I, the U.S.Consul have to give information that I have addressed the Nan Hai magistrate on the subject and issue this proclamation so that all Chineseclasses of natives may know that there is a record in the U.S.Consulate of Lo- hsing having had the pro-

proceeding and said how could a Consul have the right to post a proclamation in a Chinese shop for the information of Chinese subjects? They also said that the Chinese officials should be requested to post proclamations in the foreign bona on notifying foreigners that they cannot be permitted to to interfere in Chinese matters. The populace were angry and a disturbance nearly transpired.

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Having received the above petition, I, the U.S.Consul have to give information that I have addressed the Nan Hai magistrate on the subject and issue this proclamation so that all Chinesesubjects of natives may know that there is a record in the U.S.Consulate of Lo- haing having had the pro-

perty for a number of years and the people must not cause trouble which will lead to their punishment. Let all obey and respect this special proclamation.

Issued on the 30th April 1898.

Kuang Hsu 24th year, 10th day , 3rd Moon.

party for a number of years and the people must not cause trouble which will lead to their punishment. Let all obey and respect this special proclamation.

Issued on the 30th April 1898.

Kuang Hsu 24th year, 10th day , 3rd Moon.

Enclosure No. 2 in Despatch No. 46.

MR. DENBY TO THE TSUNGLI YAMEN.

No.14.

Peking, June 23rd, 1898.

Your Highness and Your Excellencies

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 9th inst, relating to certain charges made against Consul Bedloe at Canton.

In this communication you state, " Mr. H.B.Drew, Commissioner of Customs, an American citizen, has stated "that an American Consul who is not respectable and honorable lessens very much the reputation of his country, and that the Un United States Minister, Colonel Denby, knows well the class of man Mr. Consul Bedloe is."

In this language you repeat the personal declaration of one American citizen against another, and you proceed to involve me personally in a controversy with I have nothing to do. I do not know Consul Bedloe and have never expressed any opinion about him. I am also about to leave China and I will not permit you to involve me in a personal controversy.

I demand therefore that you withdraw the desptch sent to me. You can then, if you choose, send me a despatch relating to the alleged conduct of Mr. Bedloe and I will investigate the matter charged.

It is not proper to introduce into public papers the personal opinions of outsiders, and reflections on other people.

I have &c., &c., &c.

(Signed) Charles Denby.

Enclosure No. 2 in Despatch No. 446.

MR. DENBY TO THE TSUNGLI YAMEN.

No.14.

Peking, June 23rd, 1898.

Your Highness and Your Excellencies

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 8th inst, relating to certain charges made against Consul Bodloe at Canton.

In this communication you state, " Mr. Drew, Commissioner of Customs, an American citizen, has stated "that an American Consul who is not respectable and honorable leaves very much the reputation of his country, and that the United States Minister, Colonel Denby, knows well the class of man Mr. Consul Bodloe is."

In this language you repeat the personal declaration of one American citizen against another, and you proceed to involve me personally in a controversy with I have nothing to do. I do not know Consul Bodloe and have never expressed any opinion about him. I am also about to leave China and I will not permit you to involve me in a personal controversy.

I demand therefore that you withdrew the despatch sent to me. You can then, if you choose, send me a despatch relating to the alleged conduct of Mr. Bodloe and I will investigate the matter charged.

It is not proper to introduce into public papers the personal opinions of outsiders, and reflections on other people.

I have &c., &c., &c.

(Signed) Charles Denby.

No. 47

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 17th, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Vise of passports of persons going to the territory recently ceded by China to Russia in the Liao-tung.

(Instruction No. 9, July 23rd, 1898.)

No. 47

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 17th, 1898.

To the Honorable

William R. Day,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Department's instruction, No. 9, of July 23rd last, in regard to the viseing of passports of persons going to the territory recently ceded by China to Russia, and in reply to state that I am informed by the Russian Charge d'Affaires, Mr. Pavlow, that the regulations concerning the vise of passports of foreigners going to Russia do not apply at Port Arthur or other points in the Liao-tung ceded to Russia, nor are they on arrival at any of these places obliged to have passports previously viseed at a Russian Consulate or Legation.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

No. 48

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 17th, 1898

Ack. Oct. 25 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Disturbed state of affairs on the Island of Hainan. Matter has been brought to the attention of the Tsungli Yamen.

No. 48

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 17th, 1898.

To the Honorable

William R. Day,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to enclose to you a copy of the correspondence with the United States Consul at Canton, showing a very disturbed state of affairs on the Island of Hainan, and my note to Tsungli Yamen bringing the matter to the attention of the Chinese government.

/4

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

Enclosures:

1. Mr. Butler to Mr. Bedloe, August 22nd, 1898.
2. Mr. McClintock to Mr. Bedloe, without date.
3. Mr. Bedloe to Mr. Conger, August 29th, 1898.
4. Mr. Conger to the Tsungli Yamen, September 14th, 1898.

Enclosure No. 1 in Despatch No. 48

H.B.M. Consulate,

Kiungchow, Hainan,

August 22nd, 1898.

Hon. E.Bedloe,

U.S.Consul,

Canton.

Dear Sir:

About a week ago the members of the American Presbyterian Mission at this Port asked for my assistance in urging the Chinese authorities to protect the Mission property at Nodoa in the interior of this Island from the insurgents that threatened to attack the place. The property in question was subsequently handed over into the charge of the local military official by Mr. McClintock and Mr. Leverett, who resided there and who have retired to Hoihow. I have written several dispatches and notes the acting Taotai here, Chen urging him to send additional soldiers to Nodoa to protect the Mission property and on my representation about 600 men have actually gone to the disturbed region. The Taotai called on me on the 19th with regard to the disturbances and I used my utmost endeavors to stir him up to a full sense of the responsibility that rests on him and the other ifficia concerned to afford the fullest protection to this american property. He professed to make rather light of the troubles but promised that no harm should happen to the Mission Property and begged me to be reassured on the matter. All the same I think a little gentle pressure on him from Canton would do harm whatever, but would stiffen him up a bit.

As soon as my Chinese writer can get them ready I will send you copies of the correspondence I mentioned above, together with an official letter on this subject. I need not

Enclosure No.1 in Despatch No. 44

H.B.M. Consulate,

Klungchow, Hainan.

August 22nd, 1898.

Hon. E.Bodloe,

U.S.Consul,

Canton.

Dear Sir:

About a week ago the members of the American Presbyterian Mission at this Port asked for my assistance in urging the Chinese authorities to protect the Mission property at Hoihow in the interior of this Island from the insurgents that threatened to attack the place. The property in question was subsequently handed over into the charge of the local military official by Mr. McClintock and Mr. Leverett, who resided there and who have retired to Hoihow. I have written several dispatches and notes the acting Taotai here, Chan urging him to send additional soldiers to Hoihow to protect the Mission property and on my representation about 800 men have actually gone to the disturbed region. The Taotai called on me on the 19th with regard to the disturbances and I used my utmost endeavors to stir him up to a full sense of the responsibility that rests on him and the other officials concerned to afford the fullest protection to this american property. He professed to make rather light of the troubles but promised that no harm should happen to the Mission Property and begged me to be reassured on the matter. All the same I think a little gentle pressure on him from Canton would do harm whatever, but might stiffen him up a bit.

As soon as my Chinese writer can get them ready I will send you copies of the correspondence I mentioned above, to gether with an official letter on this subject. I need not

give you the particulars of the trouble as the missionaries are also writing you by this steamer.

I have recommended the missionaries not to return to Nodoa until things have quieted down. They could do no good whatever there and would only perhaps be exposing themselves to danger.

I remain, Dear Sir,

Yours truly,

(Signed) P.E.O'Brian Butler

H.B.M.Consul.

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I have recommended the missionaries not to return to Nodoa until things have quieted down. They could do no good whatever there and would only perhaps be exposing themselves to danger.

I remain, Dear Sir,

Yours truly,

(Signed) F.E.O'Brien Butler

H.B.M.Consul.

Enclosure No. 2 in Despatch No. 48

Hoihow, Island of Hainan, China.

Hon. Edward Bedloe,

U.S.Consul, Canton, China.

Dear Sir:

You will remember that I wrote to you some time ago, two or three months, concerning a rumored uprising of the Triad society in and about Nodoa Market in the Tam-chow District of Kiungchow Prefecture. At that time by the efforts of the literati the discontent was quieted, but a few men who were leaders in the matter and who had no hope of escaping the punishment due to them, repaired to a mountain about 15 miles from us and fortified themselves there. On the second of the sixth moon, having been reinforced by a band of thieves from Tam-chow district they made an attack on the neighboring market of No-sia. A commandant with over a hundred soldiers had been located there and were able to beat off the Triads who returned to their fortifications in Tai-wang-shan. On the fourth of the same moon the commandant went out to attack the thieves but succeeded in doing nothing more than driving them out of a village which they had captured, destroying the village and capturing one of their flags. Although we heard many rumors concerning the plans of the Triads, nothing more alarming than the looting of a few villages took place for over ten days and it was reported that they had dispersed. Later word came from the interior that two hundred Triads had crossed over from the District called Leng-shui and had joined themselves to those already in Tai-wang-shan. It was also reported that a band of pirates from the seashore had also reinforced the Triads in the hills Still later it was reported that the Triads had quarelled among themselves and had scattered. This last report we found

Enclosure No. 1 in Despatch No. 48

Hotbow, Island of Hainan, China.

Hon. Edward Bedloe,

U.S.Consul,Canton, China.

Dear Sir:

You will remember that I wrote to you some time ago, two or three months, concerning a rumored uprising of the Tri Triad society in and about Nodoa Market in the Tam-chow District or Kiungchow Prefecture. At that time by the efforts of the literati the discontent was quieted, but a few men who were leaders in the matter and who had no hope of escaping th the punishment due to them, repaired to a mountain about 15 miles from us and fortified themselves there. On the second of the sixth moon, having been reinforced by a band of thieves from Tam-chow district they made an attack on the neighboring market of No-sia. A commandant with over a hundred soldiers had been located there and were able to beat off the Triads who returned to their fortifications in Tai-wang-shan. On the fourth of the same moon the commandant went out to attack the thieves but succeeded in doing nothing more than driving them out of a village which they had captured, destroying the village and capturing one of their flags. Although we heard many rumors concerning the plans of the Triads, nothing more alarming than the looting of a few villages took place for over ten days and it was reported that they had dispersed. Later word came from the interior that two hundred Triads had crossed over from the District called Leng-shui and had joined themselves to those already in Tai-wang-shan. It was also reported that a band of pirates from the seashore had also reinforced the Triads in the hills still later it was reported that the Triads had quarelled among themselves and had scattered. This last report we found

was one spread by the Triads to prevent the natives from sending out of the district their moveable wealth. In a few days it was known that the secret meetings of the society were being held all around the market and about the neighboring markets and that the Triads were forcing the people to join them, provide them with money and with the arms they possessed.

Finally on the 24th. of the sixth moon we heard from reliable sources that six hundred men were encamped in a market called Lok-ki 18 miles to the north of us at No-tai, that they were well provided with arms and ammunition and that they were planning to attack the market and commandant in a few days. The commandant requested me to send my wife to some place of safety which I did at once he providing an escort. On the morning of the 25th. the outbreak took place as was planned. The Triads commenced by looting and burning villages, killing villagers and capturing the children. On the 26th. we received word from friends in the society that an attack on the market was planned for the next morning and because of threats made by the Triads against us, advised our leaving at once, which we did the official providing us with escort for part of the way to Hoihow. On the way out we passed within short distances of villages which they were looting and burning and the next day we were overtaken by a runner who told us that the attack on the market had taken place as planned (Sunday Aug. 14th. 6th. moon- 7th day). Later particulars were that early Sunday morning 700 men had attacked the market, that the local malitia instead of fighting the thieves joined them and with them fought the

was one spread by the Triads to prevent the natives from sending out of the district their movable wealth. In a few days it was known that the secret meetings of the society wee were being held all around the market and about the neighboring markets and that the Triads were forcing the people to join them, provide them with money and with the arms they possessed.

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local commandant but the commandant was able to beat off the Triads losing I8 men and a few flags. A later letter brings word that the Triads withdrew but are threatening another attack and the commandant has sent out asking for immediate reinforcements stating that he fears his soldiers cannot hold out.

The officiak in No-tai gave us repeated assurances that he would protect our property and our lives as long as he was able to do so, and for this purpose he sent soldiers into our compound who remained on guard ther about a month, and during the the two nights before we left and while the outbreak was hourly expected he had soldiers near us all day and he himself came at night and kept watch. On leaving we gave the property over into his care and into the care of the headman of of the market who acknowledged themselves responsible for its care. The local official has done all he could but having a force of a hundred odd men he will be unable to stand out any length of time and unless reinforcements reach him must give way and that means that our property must go. Soldiers have been sent to the neighboring market, No-sia, but not one man has been sent to No-tai although we have repeatedly sent out word to the Taotai giving him the facts in the case and demanding that adequate protection be afforded us in accordance with section II of the Treaty of I858. In this matter Mr. Butler British Consul here has kindly acted for us It is now however deemed advisable that the matter be brought to to the attention of the Viceroy as the officials here will attempt to minimize the trouble in order to save themselves, and they also throw back the responsibility on th the Viceroy by saying that they cannot act without orders

local commandant but the commandant was able to beat off the Trïads losing 18 men and a few flags. A later letter brings word that the Trïads withdrew but are threatening another attack and the commandant has sent out asking for immediate reinforcements stating that he fears his soldiers cannot hold out.

The official in No-tai gave us repeated assurances that he would protect our property and our lives as long as he was able to do so, and for this purpose he sent soldiers into our compound who remained on guard ther about a month, and during the the two nights before we left and while the outbreak was hourly expected he had soldiers near us all day and he himself came at night and kept watch. On leaving we gave the property over into his care and into the care of the headman of of the market who acknowledged themselves responsible for its care. The local official has done all he could but having a force of a hundred odd men he will be unable to stand out any length of time and unless reinforcements reach him must give way. and that means that our property must go. Soldiers have been sent to the neighboring market; No-sia, but not one man has been sent to No-tai although we have repeatedly sent out word to the Taotai giving him the facts in the case and demanding that adequate protection be afforded us in accordance with section II of the Treaty of 1858. In this matter Mr. Butler British Consul here has kindly acted for us It is now however deemed advisable that the matter be brought to to the attention of the Viceroy as the officials here will attempt to minimize the trouble in order to save themselves, and they also throw back the responsibility on th the Viceroy by saying that they cannot act without orders

from Canton and we are told that in the same way the Viceroy will throw the responsibility on Peking and say that he cannot act without orders from there so that we are advised that the rebellion should be reported to our Minister at once and his co-operation secured. May we ask of you then that that you will demand of the Viceroy that in accordance with the Treaty (sec.IX) that there being a band of thieves near to where our property is located and threatening it, that he will at once send in a force sufficient to quell the disturbance and punish the rioters. The facts are these. Eight hundred Triads are banded together in and about No-tai; they have twice attacked official troops, neither side scoringa a success; the official troops are not sufficient to attack the Triads: the whole country is in sympathy with the Triads and will join them as they see their chances of success increasing: the presence of the official troops has not deterred the Triads from rebelling but instead their numbers have grown: five hundred soldiers have gone in from here ~~who have~~ but they are coolies called here who have never borne arms before and cannot be depended upon, a hundred odd of whom have deserted.

May we ask you then also to send to Peking asking that our Minister will also push the case and secure at once sufficient protection to our property and ourselves that we may be able to return to our homes and prosecute our work.

I am, Dear Sir,

Yours truly,

(Signed) P.W.M'Clintock.

P.S.

Since writing the above we have received word that the

T

grown: five hundred soldiers have gone in from here ~~and have~~ but they are coolies called here who have never borne arms before and cannot be depended upon, a hundred odd of whom have deserted.

May we ask you then also to send to Peking asking that our Minister will also push the case and secure at once sufficient protection to our property and ourselves that we may be able to return to our homes and prosecute our work.

I am, Dear Sir,

Yours truly,

(Signed) F.W.M'Clintock.

P.S.

Since writing the above we have received word that the

Triads are threatening to take our compound as their base for a fortification. If they do this it means the total destruction of the property as it will be necessary for the officials to bombard the place and get them out. The only hope is that the Taotai here will get in reinforcements in time to save it. This is unlikely. The officials here seem willing enough and are certainly doing all they can but they have only 1000 soldiers and have 2000 thieves to contend with and also to look after the whole island and the Lin-chow peninsula as well, so that unless the Viceroy can be made to send reinforcements, he can do nothing more than he has done. So far they are to be commended for their efforts but they must be supported by higher authorities. Consul Butler is sending you today the correspondence that has passed between him and the Taotai. Our thanks are also due to Mr. Butler for his kindly and timely assistance. Should the thieves beat back the soldiers, as seems probable, they will move out towards Hoihow and in that case we may need assistance and protection from a man-of-war, as will other foreigners in the port. Will keep you informed so that unless very necessary a gun-boat need not be sent.

Yours truly

(Signed) P.W.M.

Triads are threatening to take our compound as their base for a fortification. If they do this it means the total destruction of the property as it will be necessary for the officials to bombard the place and get them out. The only hope is that the Tsotsi here will get reinforcements in time to save it. This is unlikely. The officials here seem willing enough and are certainly doing all they can but they have only 1000 soldiers and have 2000 thieves to contend with and also to look after the whole island and the Lin-chow peninsula as well, so that unless the Viceroy can be made to send reinforcements, he can do nothing more than he has done. So far they are to be commended for their efforts but they must be supported by higher authorities. Consul Butler is sending you today the correspondence that has passed between him and the Tsotsi. Our thanks are also due to Mr. Butler for his kindly and timely assistance. Should the thieves beat back the soldiers, as seems probable, they will move out towards Hollow and in that case we may need assistance and protection from a man-of-war, as will other foreigners in the port. Will keep you informed so that unless very necessary a gun-boat need not be sent.

Yours truly

(Signed) F.W.M.

Enclosure No. 3 in Despatch No. 48

No. 25.

CONSULATE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Canton, China, Aug. 29th, 1898.

Honorable E.H.Conger

Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary,

Peking, China.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose herewith for your information copies of letters received by me on the 26th inst. from H.B.M. Consul, Mr. O'Brian Butler, at Kiungchow, and from Rev. Mr. M'Clintock of Hoihow on the subject of the uprising in Hainan.

I have the honor to remain, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) Edward Bedloe

Consul

Enclosures:

I Letter from British Consul

2 " " Rev. Mr. M'Clintock.

Enclosure No. 3 in Despatch No. 448

No. 25.

CONSULATE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Canton, China, Aug. 29th, 1898.

Honorable E.H.Conger

Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary,

Peking, China.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose herewith for your information copies of letters received by me on the 28th inst. from H.B.M. Consul, Mr. O'Brian Butler, at Kiungchow, and from Rev. Mr. M'Clintock of Hoihow on the subject of the uprising in Hainan.

I have the honor to remain, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) Edward Bedloe

Consul

Enclosures:

1 Letter from British Consul

2 " " Rev. Mr. M'Clintock.

Enclosure No. 4 in Despatch No. 48

F.O.No. 12.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking China, September 14th, 1898.

The Undersigned, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America, has the honor to inform Your Highness and Your Excellencies of the Tsungli Yamen, that he has received, from the United States Consul at Canton, a report of serious troubles at Nodoa, in the Tam-chow District of Kiungchow Prefecture, Island of Hainan, in which insurgents and desperadoes are committing murders and destroying property to such an extent as to make living there very unsafe and have such personal threats against the American missionaries there, as to compel them to abandon their property and repair to Hoihow for personal safety.

It appears that the insurgents are in such force that the local officials cannot control them with the meager police and soldiery at their command.

The Undersigned hastens, therefore, to bring the matter to the attention of Your Highness and Your Excellencies, with the urgent request that an immediate investigation may be had and sufficient re-inforcements be promptly ordered to the locality to insure the safety and protection of these missionaries in the prosecution of their work in accordance with treaty provisions.

In

To

His Highness, Prince Cheng,

and Their Excellencies of the Tsungli Yamen,

etc., etc., etc.,

No. 85.
P.O.No. 12.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking China, September 14th, 1898.

The Undersigned, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America, has the honor to inform Your Highness and Your Excellencies of the Tsungli Yamen,

Sirs:

I have the honor to enclose herewith for Your Information copies of letters received by me on the 20th inst. from H.B.M. Consul, Mr. O'Brien Butler, at Klungchow, and from Rev. Mr. McClintock, on the subject of the uprising in Hainan.

I have the honor to remain, Sirs,

(Signed) Edward Bedloe
Consul

Enclosures:
1 Letter from British Consul
2 " " Rev. Mr. McClintock.

To

His Highness, Prince Cheng,

and Their Excellencies of the Tsungli Yamen.

etc., etc., etc.

Enclosure No. 4 in Despatch No. 8

The Undersigned, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America, has the honor to inform Your Highness and Your Excellencies of the Tsungli Yamen,

Sirs:

I have the honor to enclose herewith, from the United States Consul at Canton, a report of serious troubles at Hoihow, in the Tam-chow District of Klungchow Prefecture, Island of Hainan, in which insurgents and desperadoes are committing murders and destroying property to such an extent as to make living there very unsafe and have such personal threats against the American missionaries there, as to compel them to abandon on their property and repair to Hoihow for personal safety.

It appears that the insurgents are in such force that the local officials cannot control them with the meager police and soldiery at their command.

The Undersigned hastens, therefore, to bring the matter to the attention of Your Highness and Your Excellencies, with the urgent request that an immediate investigation may be had and sufficient re-inforcements be promptly ordered to the locality to insure the safety and protection of these missionaries in the prosecution of their work in accordance with treaty provisions.

In

To

His Highness, Prince Cheng,

and Their Excellencies of the Tsungli Yamen.

etc., etc., etc.

In order to give a more particular understanding of the case a copy of the letter of Rev. P.W.McClintock to the United States Consul at Canton is herewith enclosed.

The Undersigned avails himself of this occasion to assure Your Highness and Your Excellencies of his highest consideration.

(Signed) E.H.Conger

signed by Herbert G. Squires,

Secretary of Legation,

in the absence of and in accordance with

the instructions of the Minister.

In order to give a more particular understanding of the case a copy of the letter of Rev. F.S.McClintock to the United States Consul at Canton is herewith enclosed.

The Undersigned avails himself of this occasion to assure Your Highness and Your Excellencies of his highest consideration.

(Signed) S.H.Conger

signed by Herbert G. Squires,

Secretary of Legation,

in the absence of and in accordance with

the instructions of the Minister.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.

Form No. 132.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

Confirmed Sept. 27.

From United States Legation,

Peking, China, September 23, 1898.

D A Y,

Washington.

Emperor has been compelled to decree the ~~Empress~~ Dowager co-regent. She assumes full power to-day.

C O N G E R.

Deciphered by K Eller

Sept 24, 1898, M.

No. 49

Arch. Confidential
Subjects
Nov. 18/98

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 24th, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Recent political events at Peking. Empress Dowager is again in power. Dethronement of the Emperor Kwang-su. Recent progressive movement. Possibility of return to office of Li Hung Chang.

No. 49

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 24th, 1898.

To the Honorable

William R. Day,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to confirm, on the overleaf, my telegram of yesterday and to enclose a copy of the imperial decree upon which it was based.

Although the Empress Dowager appears from the edict to be invited only to "assist" in the administration of the government, yet the fact is she has taken over supreme charge, the Emperor is, for the present at least, effectually dethroned and practically a prisoner in his palace.

For several months the Emperor has been listening to a coterie of reformers, who insisted that if China was to make any real progress, it must be done by breaking away from the old ways, and moving along the lines in which the western nations have gone forward, and which now seemed so promising for Japan.

The

No. 44.

Legation of the United States of America,

Peking, China, September 24, 1917.

To the Honorable

William J. Bryan,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to confirm, on the overleaf, my telegram of yesterday and to enclose a copy of the Imperial decree upon which it was based.

Although the Emperor Kanghsi appears to be invited only to "assist" in the administration of the government, yet the fact is one has taken over supreme office, the Emperor is, for the present at least, effectually divorced and practically a prisoner in his palace.

For several months the Emperor has been [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[

The Emperor believed these men and concluding that he had outgrown the necessity of "leading strings"has been gradually drifting away from his old time conservative counsellors,striking out for himself and issuing edicts without,as heretofore,consulting the Empress Dowager.

His latest reformatory decree,however,was stopped by the Empress Dowager before it was issued. It was one authorizing all officials above a certain rank to wear European clothes,and the Emperor himself had caused to be brought to him several suits in order to try them on,see how he looked and how he liked them.

It is also authoritively stated and believed that the Emperor was planning for the arrest and imprisonment of the Empress Dowager;but on the 20th instant the Empress Dowager returned from her summer residence to the Imperial palace in the city and calling the young Emperor severely to account, demanded that he turn over the administration to her and compelled him to issue the above mentioned edict, which undoubtedly was written by her own hand.

The Viceroy of Chihli,Jung Lu,who is really the Commander-in Chief of all the military in the capital province, is a strong friend and supporter of the Empress Dowager,as are also most of the army officers under him.

Outside

demanded

Outside of a handful of reformers, the Emperor seemed to have no effective support and, possessing neither natural courage nor vigorous health and strength, he was obliged to yield and is now greatly alarmed lest his life be taken.

Several arrests have already been made; but the prime mover and chief reform adviser of the Emperor has so far eluded capture and it is believed he has escaped from China. He is a literator from Canton and one of the cleverest writers and authors in China, was one of the organizers and leaders in a reform club in Peking, which was suppressed in 1895. He had been at the capital less than a year at this time; but had become a constant, favorite and influential advisor of the Emperor. He first won the Emperor by an excellent translation of a "Life of Peter the Great" which so pleased and interested him that he ordered him to write the history of progress in Japan. His name is Khang Yan Wei. His brother is among the arrested.

Today Chang-Yen-Huan, a leading member of the Tsungli Yamen, former Minister to the United States and one of the most progressive officials, has been arrested and placed in charge of the Board of Punishments.

Of course there is great excitement here; but the people themselves are so conservative, and they have so often heretofore

writers and authors in China, was one of the clevernes

heretofore witnessed the strength and conservatism of this remarkable woman that there is not the general alarm one might expect from such happenings.

This is only one chapter in the history which China is making: the next cannot be predicted. The enactment of this only became possible through the death of Prince Kung in May last. He was an uncle of the present Emperor, had been co-regent with the Empress Dowager during Kwang Su's minority and was a very strong man. This crisis probably could not have happened during his life time.

The indications are that the dethronement of the Emperor Kwang su is permanent and it is expected that conservatism will take the place of progress;but the belief is quite general that even the Empress Dowager and her ultra conservative advisers have been somewhat aroused by passing events, and that material improvement,commercial development and educational progress will still be carried forward,though with somewhat slackened pace.

It is not known whether or not Li Hung Chang will be re-instated;yet his friends believe he will be called back to official place and power in some capacity.

I will report further developments as they transpire,

either

either by despatch or wire as their importance warrants.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

Enclosure:

Translation of a Decree published in the Peking Gazette, September 21st, 1898.

Telegram sent.

Peking, September 23rd, 1898.

Day,

Washington.

Emperor has been compelled to decree Empress Dowager co-regent. She assumes full power today.

(Signed.) Conger.

Enclosure No. 1 in Despatch No. 49

Translation of a Decree published in the Peking Gazette September 21st, 1898.

At the present time many difficult national queations are waiting to be settled. Night and day We have labored diligently and cautiously managing these multitudinous affairs and even when at leisure have taken great pains to avoid making any mistake.

In looking back We find that, since the time of the Emperor T'ung Chih, the Empress Dowager has, upon two occasions conducted the affairs of the Government most excellently. Therefore reflecting upon the importance and dignity of our country We have very earnestly besought the Empress Dowager to compassionately assist Us in the administration of the Government and to condescend to our request. This would be for the happiness of all the officials and people of the Empire.

Beginning with to-day the administration of the Government will be carried on in a side hall. On the 8th of this moon (September 23rd) the Princes and Ministers will follow Us into the Ch'in Cheng Hall where the proper ceremonials will be observed, the various Yamens which have control of these ceremonials having been instructed to make due preparation.

Enclosure No. 1 in Despatch No. 47

Translation of a Decree published in the Peking Gazette September 21st, 1898.

At the present time many difficult national questions are waiting to be settled. Night and day We have laboured diligently and cautiously managing these multitudinous affairs and even when at leisure have taken great pains to avoid making any mistake.

In looking back We find that, since the time of the Emperor T'ung Chih, the Empress Dowager has, upon two occasions conducted the affairs of the Government most excellently. Therefore reflecting upon the importance and dignity of our country We have very earnestly besought the Empress Dowager to compassionately assist Us in the administration of the Government and to condescend to our request. This would be for the happiness of all the officials and people of the Empire.

Beginning with to-day the administration of the Government will be carried on in a side hall. On the 8th of this moon (September 28rd) the Princes and Ministers will follow Us into the Ch'in Cheng Hall where the proper ceremonials will be observed, the various Yamens which have control of these ceremonials having been instructed to make due preparation.

No. 50

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 27th, 1898.

Ans. Dec 1/98

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Case of R. Toulmin who is under indictment for murder. Trial set for October 1st, 1898, at Canton. Consul General Goodnow suggests an additional regulation of Consular procedure providing for change of venue.

No. 50

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 27th,1898.

To the Honorable

William R.Day,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

The conditions surrounding the case of R.Toulmin, now under indictment for murder and whose trial is set for October 1st at Canton,has suggested to Consul Bedloe and Consul General Goodnow the advisability of an additional regulation of Consular procedure providing for change of venue,and the Consul General requests the promulgation of such regulations under the authority given to the United States Minister in Section 4086,Revised Statutes.

13 I enclose copies of the correspondence upon the subject. For reasons set forth in my despatch to General Goodnow,I have declined to prepare the regulation.

I shall be glad to receive the views of the

Department

Department upon the question.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

Enclosures:

1. Mr.Bedloe to Mr.Goodnow,August 24th,1898.

2. Mr.Goodnow to Mr.Conger,September 7th,1898.

3. Mr.Conger to Mr.Goodnow,September 23rd,1898.

Enclosure No. 1 in Despatch No. 50

Consulate of the United States of America.

Canton, 24 August 1898.

My dear Gene[illegible],

Your personal favor of the 20th inst acknowledging mine of the 10th inst is just received and I hie me to reply. Yes, Rozario reported in due season after he got under weigh again from Shanghai. " Mr. Goodnow is a splendid man, splendid." was Rozario's first expression. He spoke of your courteous kindness to himself and the consideration you manifested for the prisoner Toulmin. I studiously avoided the prisoner's request for advice. I could and did not recommend any body for his defense. His Hongkong friends are attending to that end of the case. I told those who called here in his behalf, and in the presence of acting Vice Consul Williams, that I am in a judicial capacity and not here as adviser. If the prisomer cannot procure Counsel I shall appeal to the Consul General to assign an attorney to defend the accused. I believe in view of the anti-foreign feeling among the Cantonese, that the friends of Toulmin will ask to have him tried by your Court in Shanghai. We have no accomodation here for holding Court and no jail for holding prisoners.

To bring Toulmin here means certain death. The Cantonese will kill him sure. It was partly on that account he was removed from the British jail.

Toulmin's friend repeatedly reported the danger and pointed out to me how easily he could be shot by any one climbing up to the window or one of the windows of his cell in the jail here.

The

Enclosure No. 1 in Despatch No. 472

Consulate of the United States of America.

Canton, 24 August 1898.

My dear General,

Your personal favor of the 20th inst acknowledging mine of the 10th inst is just received and I hasten to reply. Yes, Rosario reported in due season after he got under weigh again from Shanghai. " Mr. Goodnow is a splendid man, splendid." was Rosario's first expression. He spoke of your courteous kindness to himself and the consideration you manifested for the prisoner Toulmin. I studiously avoided the prisoner's request for advice. I could and did not recommend any body for his defense. His Hongkong friends are attending to that end of the case. I told those who called here in his behalf, and in the presence of acting Vice Consul Williams, that I am in a judicial capacity and not here as adviser. If the prisoner cannot procure Counsel I shall appeal to the Consul General to assign an attorney to defend the accused. I believe in view of the anti-foreign feeling among the Cantonese, that the friends of Toulmin will ask to have him tried by your Court in Shanghai. We have no accomodation here for holding Court and no jail for holding prisoners.

To bring Toulmin here means certain death. The Cantonese will kill him sure. It was partly on that account he was removed from the British jail.

Toulmin's friend repeatedly reported the danger and pointed out to me how easily he could be shot by any one climbing up to the window or one of the windows of his cell in the jail here.

The

The Shameen riots, ten years ago, grew out of a similar case resulting in burning half of the buildings on the foreign settlement.

You have the prisoner safe now. It is easier to bring witnesses to Shanghai and get an American jury there than in Canton.

I believe the Department will consent to your trying the case with my consent and presence.

What do you think?

Faithfully yours,

(Sgd) Ed Bedloe.

The Shameen riots, ten years ago, grew out of a similar case resulting in burning half of the buildings on the foreign settlement.

You have the prisoner safe now. It is easier to bring witnesses to Shanghai and get an American jury there than in Canton.

I believe the Department will consent to your trying the case with my consent and presence.

What do you think?

Faithfully yours,

(Sgd) Ed Badlow.

Consulate of the United States of America.

Canton, 26 August 1898.

My dear General,

Suppose the prisoner Toulmin should apply for a change of venue and request to be tried in Shanghai, would his wish be granted?

We have no accommodation for holding Court in Canton What do you suggest? Don't for a moment imagine that I desire to avoid the trial.

I wish to give the prisoner all his rights and the full benefit of every point our laws entitle him to claim.

I have not advised him at all.

I presume if he has counsel he will elect to be tried as far from this "sphere of influence" as possible.

Kindly favor me with your opinion and wishes in the premises.

Faithfully yours,

(Sgd) Ed Bedloe.

Consulate of the United States of America.

Canton, 26 August 1898.

My dear General,

Suppose the prisoner Toulmin should apply for a change of venue and request to be tried in Shanghai, would his wish be granted?

We have no accommodation for holding Court in Canton What do you suggest? Don't for a moment imagine that I desire to avoid the trial.

I wish to give the prisoner all his rights and the full benefit of every point our laws entitle him to claim.

I have not advised him at all.

I presume if he has counsel he will elect to be tried as far from this "sphere of influence" as possible.

Kindly favor me with your opinion and wishes in the premises.

Faithfully yours,

(Sgd) Ed Bellos.

Enclosure No. 2 in Despatsh No. 50.

No. 96.

Consulate-General of the United States of America.

Shanghai, China, September 7th 1898.

Hon. E.H.Conger,

E.E.& M.P.

Peking.

Sir:-

I enclose for instructions copy of two letters from Consul Bedloe in regard to change of venue for R. Toulmin. I would respectfully represent:

I. There is no rule providing for a change of venue under any circumstances nor is there any precedent in the matter and such a rule could be made by you under your power to supply deficiencies in the law. (R.S. 4086)

II. Certainly an American citizen is entitled to a change of venue if his life is endangered by trial in a particular city, or if he is unable there to have a fair trial, on account of local feeling. In this case for instance, should the prisoner ask for a trial in some other place and Dr. Bedloe decide that he could not get a fair, unbiased trial in Canton or that his life is in danger if he is brought back to Canton and that he can be tried somewhere else without putting the prosecution to such expense for transportation of witnesses etc. that change of venue would be a practical Nolle prosequi, should not Dr. Bedloe, as judge, and at the same time conservator of the interests and safety of all Americans in his district, and also as U.S.Consul, anxious not to do anything to cause rioting and breaches of the

peace

Enclosure No. 2 in Despatch No. 572

No. 86.

Consulate-General of the United States of America.

Shanghai, China, September 7th 1898.

Hon. E.H.Conger,

E.E.& M.P.

Peking.

Sir:-

I enclose for instructions copy of two letters from Consul Bedloe in regard to change of venue for R. Toulmin.

I would respectfully represent:

I. There is no rule providing for a change of venue under any circumstances nor is there any precedent in the matter and such a rule could be made by you under your power to supply deficiencies in the law. (R.S. 4086)

II. Certainly an American citizen is entitled to a change of venue if his life is endangered by trial in a particular city, or if he is unable there to have a fair trial, on account of local feeling. In this case for instance, should the prisoner ask for a trial in some other place and Dr. Bedloe decide that he could not get a fair, unbiased trial in Canton or that his life is in danger if he is brought back to Canton and that he can be tried somewhere else without putting the prosecution to such expenses for transportation of witnesses etc. that change of venue would be a practical Nolle prosequi, should not Dr. Bedloe,as judge, and at the same time conservator of the interests and safety of all Americans in his district, and also as U.S.Consul, anxious not to do anything to cause rioting and breaches of the

peace

peace and consequent international complication, have power to grant change of venue? In the rules I am drawing up, I am trying to provide for this contingency in the future.

III. To the best of my information, a guild has offered 5000 taels reward for Toulmin's head and the feeling in Canton is so bitter and demands the man's life so strongly that it will largely hamper Bedloe's influence when the man receives a punishment short of death. (You know that the Consular courts can not inflict the death penalty). It will also be hard to get Associates to sit with Bedloe who will not be influenced somewhat by the state of feeling among the Cantonese with whom they are in daily business contact.

I expect instructions from Washington today which will send me to Canton withih a week and I would like a reply as speedily as possible so that I can discuss the matter with Consul Bedloe.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your obedient servamt,

(Signed) John Goodnow,

Consul General

2 Enclosures.

peace and consequent international complication, have power to grant change of venue? In the rules I am drawing up, I am trying to provide for this contingency in the future.

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I expect instructions from Washington today which will send me to Canton within a week and I would like a reply as speedily as possible so that I can discuss the matter with Consul Bedloe.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) John Goodnow,

Consul General

2 Enclosures.

Enclosure No. 3 in Despatch No. 50

No. 104

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 23rd, 1898.

John Goodnow, Esquire,

United States Consul General,

Shanghai.

Sir:-

In further reply to your despatch of the 7 th instant, enclosing two letters from Consul Bedloe, noting the ill-feeling among the Cantonese toward R.Toulmin, and the consequent danger of returning him to Canton for trial, and suggesting the necessity of an additional rule of Consular procedure, providing for changes of venue in certain cases, I have to say that such a rule must of necessity be a general one, and could not be made for a special case; besides I have serious doubts as to the general necessity or advisability of such a regulation.

The usual causes for change of venue can very rarely exist in China. While the Consul, as a judicial officer, is supposed to be perfectly impartial, yet from his peculiar position as a constant defender of American citizens and their rights against the Chinese, he can hardly avoid a preexisting prejudice in favor of a defendant who is always an American citizen; besides his associates are always Americans, and unavoidably cherish a more kindly feeling for their fellow citizens than for others. The prisoner would, therefore, ordinarily enter a trial with much in his favor.

The

Enclosure No. 3 in Despatch No. 570

No. 104

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 23rd, 1899.

John Goodnow, Esquire,

United States Consul General,

Shanghai.

Sir:-

In further reply to your despatch of the 7 th instant, enclosing two letters from Consul Bedloe, noting the ill-feeling among the Cantonese toward H.Toulmin, and the consequent danger of returning him to Canton for trial, and suggesting the necessity of an additional rule of Consular procedure, providing for changes of venue in certain cases, I have to say that such a rule must of necessity be a general one, and could not be made for a special case; besides I have serious doubts as to the general necessity or advisability of such a regulation.

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The

The Consulates are, most of them, far removed each other, the means of travel inconvenient and expensive; and it is most likely the Chinese Government and people would consider it a great hardship to be compelled to go to distant places either as prosecutors or witnesses; or possibly would deem it an unfair proceeding, and one purposely invented to defeat the ends of justice.

In the present case of R.Toulmin the danger of mob violence to the prisoner may be imminent, and yet this case could scarcely be justified, as a general good and sufficient cause for change of venue.

Under our treaties the Chinese Government guarantees the protection of the lives and property of American citizens and is bound, on due application, to furnish the necessary police or military force to protect the prisoner, and all others legitimately connected with or conducting a lawful trial.

The granting of extra-territoriality is an extraordinary concession, and procedure thereunder ought always to be in accordance with the plainest principles of fairness and justi tice toward the citizens of the country granting it. Hence for all the above stated reasons, I do not deem it wise or prudent to provide the suggested regulation.

I am Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) E.H.Conger.

The Consulates are, most of them, far removed each other, the means of travel inconvenient and expensive; and it is most likely the Chinese Government and people would consider it a great hardship to be compelled to go to distant places either as prosecutors or witnesses; or possibly would deem it an unfair proceeding, and one purposely invented to defeat the ends of justice.

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The granting of extra-territoriality is an extraordinary concession, and procedure thereunder ought always to be in accordance with the plainest principles of fairness and justice toward the citizens of the country granting it. Hence for all the above stated reasons, I do not deem it wise or prudent to provide the suggested regulation.

I am Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) E.H.Conger.

No. 51

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 28th, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Forwarding under separate cover two copies of the Imperial Maritime Customs Gazette, No. CXVIII, April-June, 1898.

No. 51

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 28th, 1898.

To the Honorable

William R. Day,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to forward, under separate cover, for the information of the Department, two copies of the Imperial Maritime Customs Gazette, No. CXVIII, April-June, 1898, published by order of the Inspector General of Customs.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

No. 52

Ans. Dec 9/98

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 28th, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Instruction No. 18, dated August 16th, 1898, received.

The Legation's telegram confirmed should have read "Peking-Hankow" not "Peking-Horse".

No. 52

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 28th, 1898.

To the Honorable

William R. Day,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

In acknowledging confirmation of my telegram of the 14th ultimo, Instruction No. 18, dated August 16th, 1898, -I beg to say that the name of railway mentiomed was "Peking-"Hankow" not "Peking-Horse"*.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

[* Correction has been made in the telegram

D. T. C

Dec 9/98]

6 DA

No. 53

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Ackd Dec. 1/98

Peking, China, September 29th, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Changes in the Tsungli Yamen.

No. 59

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 29th, 1898.

To the Honorable

William R. Day,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to report the appointment of His Excellency, Hsü Yung I, as a member of the Tsungli Yamen.

At the time of his appoinment he was a Senior Vice-President of the Board of Civil Office. He has had some experience in foreign affairs as a member of the Tsungli Yamen several years ago.

His Excellency, Yü Lu, whose appointment to the Yamen was reported in my despatch No. 38 of the 14th instant, has since been appointed Viceroy of the Province of Chihli.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

No. 54

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 30th, 1898.

Ack'd Dec. 1/98

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject. State of affairs at Peking September 30th, 1898. Decrees issued by the Empress Dowager. Execution of the conspirators. Banishment of Chang Yen Huan. Newspaper comments. Cipher telegram of the 30th confirmed.

No. 54

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 30th, 1898.

To the Honorable

William R. Day,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

I have the honor [to omit] confirm, on the overleaf, my cipher telegram of this date, and] to enclose copies of six Imperial decrees published since my despatch of the 24th instant.

Since that day the Emperor has been a closely guarded prisoner in the palace, and it is believed that the decree of the 25th instant concerning his health, and calling for medical aid, is but the initiatory of a clever scheme, to end in and furnish a reasonable excuse for his early death.

On the night of the 28th instant he attempted to escape by one of the unfrequented side gates of the palace but was stopped by the guards.

By the decree of the 26th instant (Enclosure No. 2.) the

Empress

Empress Dowager has revoked several of the reformatory measures of the Emperor,reinstated various bureaus by him abolished,denied the right of petitioning directly to the throne,abolished the "Chinese Progress 時務 Magazine"as the Government's official organ(it having been so designated by the Emperor,and K'ang Yü Wei appointed editor),restored temples taken for schools etc.,etc.,etc.

By another decree of same date (Enclosure No 1)seven minor officials,arrested and charged with complicity in the plot against the Empress Dowager,were ordered tried for treason;but before trial by Imperial edict of the 29th instant,six of them were beheaded.

This decree apparently published by the Emperor;but which,most likely,he never saw,contains the alleged reasons which the Empress Dowager has sent out for her assumption of power,and the excuses made to the Chinese public and the world,for the pursuit of Kang Yü Wei and the punishment and execution of his friends.

By decree of September 29th,Chang Yen Huan,member of the Tsungli Yamen and former Minister to the United States, was degraded and banished to Hsin-chiang.

The six men executed were young literati,who,with Kang Yu Wei had gained the confidence and friendship of the

Emperor

Emperor and were employed as Censors, Secretaries or other minor places.

Kang Yu Wei, described in a former despatch, fled to Tientsin, took passage thence for Shanghai on a British merchant vessel, and was at Wosung transferred to the British man-of-war "Esk" supposed to be sailing for Hongkong.

On the 28th instant Jung Lu, Viceroy of Chihli, who had been summoned by the Empress Dowager to Peking, was by decree appointed to the Grand Council, and Yu Lu made Viceroy of Chihli and Superintendent of Northern Trade. Both are true and tried friends of the Empress Dowager, and all the northern forces are put under their commands.

Everybody seems uncertain as to the future. Trouble is not greatly feared here, because the Empress, being a Manchu, and the people practically all Manchus, and having great confidence in her by reason of former regencies, will generally support her. Besides the capital and this province are at present generally supplied with troops with officers largely in sympathy with the Empress Dowager.

But in the south, where most of the executed friends of the Emperor had formerly lived, and all of them had friends friends, and near to where their leader has escaped, as well

as

as at some interior points already riotous, it is feared there may be serious disturbances.

A pretence is kept up of the Emperor sharing in the direction of affairs; but the fact is, he is neither consulted nor permitted a suggestion. ..

As showing somewhat the outside estimation of the affair and consequent predictions by foreigners, I enclose several editorial clippings from the North-China Daily News of Shanghai.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

Enclosures:

1. Translation of an Imperial decree published in the Peking Gazette, September 25th, 1898.
2. .. .. September 26th, 1898.
3. .. .. September 26th, 1898.
4. .. .. September 28th, 1898.
5. .. .. September 29th, 1898.
6. .. .. September 29th, 1898.
7. Clipping from North China Daily News, Sept. 27, 1898.
8. .. .. .. Sept. 27, 1898.
9. .. .. .. Sept. 28, 1898.

TELEGRAM SENT.

(Cipher)

Peking, China, September 30th, 1898.

Day,

Washington.

Six alleged conspirators executed by order of Empress yesterday. Kang, leading reformer, adviser of Emperor escaped on British vessel. Emperor is reported dangerously ill. Order and quiet prevail here. Trouble feared at some interior points not yet heard from.

(Signed) Conger.

Enclosure No. / in Despatch No.

Translation of an Imperial Decree published in the Peking Gazette, September 29th, 1898.

Ever since the 4th moon We have constantly been indisposed and although for a long time have been under treatment there has been no improvement. Therefore if there is any person who is skilled in the science of medicine let him be recommended immediately by any official in the Empire and if he is now residing in some other province let him come to Peking speedily and without delay.

Enclosure No. 2 in Despatch No. 54

Translation of an Imperial Decree published in the Peking Gazette, September 26th, 1898.

The various reforms which have recently been proposed by the Court, for the prosperity of the nation, were considered with the hope that at this time the Empire might become rich and powerful, that the people might secure a livelihood and have not originated out of a desire simply to adopt new methods and abandon old ones. We have been very reluctant to do all this and therefore Our subjects should sympathize with us. Upon consideration We find that the people are in a state of doubt and fear having been brought about by those in authority not acting in accordance with orders and not being in sympathy with us. The result has been that the ignorant have made false conjectures and and many erroneous reports have arisen. Take for example the matter of dispensing with the official posts.. The object was tto sift out and reduce the number of supernumeraries, but because the provincial officials did not investigate the matterthere have been numerous memorials recommending that great changes be made in the administration of the Government.

Reasoning from this, falsehoods have been propagated. What will be the end? Therefore if the truth is not made known there is reason to fear that the people will become excited by this random talk and tranquility will cease to prevail, and all Our efforts for the prosperity of the Empire will avail nothing.

In dispensing with the Imperial Supervisorate of Instruction and the various other departments Our design was to separate the business of these departments and incorporate them in other departments and in this way abolish all unnecessary duties.

Now

Now upon consideration We believe that by adding this and cutting out that a round about method is the result and the state of affairs is not different than formerly. Therefore let the Imperial Supervisorate of Instruction, the Office of Transmission, the Grand Court of Revision, the Court of Imperial Entertainments, the Court of the Imperial Stud and the Court of State Ceremonial be replaced and conduct their duties as usual. Let all those official posts and offices in the various provinces which ought to be abolished and incorporated and all unemployed officials be dispensed with by the Governors and Governors-General.

In regard to the establishment of the "Chinese Progress Magazine" giving the Literati permission to memorialize, the original design was to make Us clearly see and understand the feelings of the people . But now the Court has made ample provision for freedom of speech to the officials that they may be able to petition in regard to the administration of the Government and if there is any thing worthy of selection it will be acted on without delay. However the memorialists have been emulating each other and sending in petitions containing merely superficial phrases and have plagiarized even to the extent of spreading falsehoods.

Hereafter only those officials who have the right to memorialize shall use respectful and proper language for the enlightenment of the people and shall proclaim the real truth as to the Government. But those officials who are not authorized to memorialize will not be allowed to present sealed petitions, but will conform to the fixed laws.

Since the "Chinese Progress Magazine" is of no use to Our Person and is misleading to the people, let it be immediately abolished.

The Imperial Chinese University being for the culture of the people, and others in the Provincial Capitals having already been

been established, in addition let the smaller schools in the various departments, prefectures and districts be established according to the pleasure of the people.

The temples in the provinces which are not on the Imperial list, if they are not illegal, shall continue as formerly and need not be converted into schools, that the people may not be offended.

In addition to this those things already under discussion and put into operationin order to improve military affairs and to increase the sources of revenue must be carried out in good earnest. That which is of no benefit to the present administration and that which is a hindrance to Our Person let the Six Boards and the Foreign Office carefully investigate and report clearly on the different methods of procedure. Now that the affairs of the Government are in great difficulty, all business must be deliberated upon with the greatest care in order to decide what should be introduced and what rejected, that the good may be retained and not a single flaw remain.

We shall endeavor to arrive at a happy medium and not simply follow Our own inclinations. Therefore all officials, great and small, ought to sympathize with Us and earnestly strive to aid Us in the administration of the Government and to proclaim the truth.

Enclosure No. 3 in Despatch No. 54

Translation of an Imperial Decree published in the Peking Gazette, September 26th, 1898.

THE Board of Punishments has memorialized the Throne upon a very important case and requests the appointment of high officials to conduct the trial.

Let the offending officials - Hsü Chih Ching, Yang Shen Hsiu, Yang Jui, Lin Hsü, T'an Ssu T'ung, Liu Kuang Ti, and K'ang Kuang Jen the brother of K'ang Yu Wei, be strictly tried by the Grand Council, together with the Board of Punishments and the Board of Censors.

Chang Yin Huan has been frequently censured on the ground his reputation has been very reprehensible, although he did not belong to K'ang Yu Wei's faction. Therefore let him be turned over to the Board of Punishments to be looked after temporarily and wait for the Imperial Decree.

K'ang Yu Wei formed a party for his own selfish purposes. Therefore his offense is very grave.

All of K'ang Yu Wei's adherents - Hsü Chih Ching and others have already been turned over to the Board of Punishments that they may undergo a very strict trial. Further it would be difficult to guarantee that there are not others among the officials and gentry who have been beguiled by K'ang Yu Wei, but the Court is very lenient and will not make farther investigations.

Enclosure No. 4 in Despatch No. 54

Translation of an Imperial Decree published in the Peking Gazette, September 28th, 1898.

Let Jung Lu officiate in the Grand Council and let Yü Lu fill the appointment of Viceroy of the province of Chihli and also fill the position of the Superintendent of Northern Trade.

Let all the northern forces remain under the control of Jung Lu, who will be assisted by Yü Lu.

Enclosure No. 5 in Despatch No. 54

Translation of an Imperial Decree published in the Peking Gazette, September 29th, 1898.

Chang Yin Huan, who was Junior Vice-President of the Board of Revenue, having already been degraded, was very clever at imposing on people, his actions were deceitful, mysterious and fickle and he sought after the rich and powerful, Therefore let him be banished to Hsin-chiang and turned over to the various Governors who are ordered to use the utmost care in guarding him on his journey.

Enclosure No. 6 in Despatch No. 54

Translation of an Imperial decree published in the Peking Gazette, September 29th, 1898.

Whereas, the present times and affairs are full of difficulties, the Court has diligently planned for the Government, seeking reforms for its prosperity according to the plans for the welfare of the people as handed down by our ancestors. The Emperor has labored night and day with unwearied diligence, but unexpectedly there appeared a manager of affairs, Kang Yü Wei, a leader of false doctrines, a deceiver of the age, a slanderer of men, who led a crowd of low followers and took advantage of the attempt at reforms to impose his own rebellious schemes, covering up his conspiracy and secretly irregular conduct. Some days ago he gathered together his band to surround the I Ho Palace to capture the Empress Dowager and also the Emperor, but he was discovered and his conspiracy broken. It is also reported that his murderous band had formed a Society to Preserve China, but not the Manchu Dynasty. This rebellious conduct is certainly to be detested. My great filial affection for the Empress Dowager must be known to Foreigners and Chinese. Kang Yu Wei's learning is crafty and false. These books whichhe constantly made were opposed to the Classics, misleading, anddestructive of the Sages and Laws. Because of his constant advocacy of reforms he was appointed to a post in the Foreign Office, and We appointed him to immediately repair to

Shanghai

Enclosure No. 6 in Despatch No. 374

Translation of an Imperial decree published in the Peking Gazette, September 29th, 1898.

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Shanghai to take charge of the Government Press but he lingered in the Capital to stir up strife and practice his dark designs. Unless the protection of our Ancestors had enabled us to clearly see his schemes beforehand there is no telling what would have happened. K'ang Yü Wei, the chief of rebels, has now absconded; therefore let all the Provincial officials strenously seek him out and arrest him for severest punishment.

Chu Jen (M.A.) Liang Chi- Chiao was an accomplice of Kang Yu Wei and his writings are full of falsehoods and rebellion; therefore let him also be apprehended for punishment. K'ang Yü Wei's brother, Kang Kuang-Jen, and the Censor Yang Shen-hsin and clerks of Grand Council T'an-ssu-tung, Lin-hsu, Yang Jui, Liu Kuang-ti, and others, were truly associates and abetters of K'ang Yü Wei Yang Jui and others at every audience sought to deceive and disobey the Emperor. They secretly protected ruffians and joined with them in their evil deeds, so their crime is of the grawest character. They have been degraded, examined and lodged in the Board of Punishments. Immediately memorialists declared that if there wascany delay in this trial there was great danger of a riot. We meditated carefully on the investigation of said rebels. Their crime was great, without precedent and they must not escape the net of the law. If they were permitted to speak, they would involve many others; therefore

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We could not await the report from the Board of Punishment, and yesterday We decreed that the guilty persons be immediately executed. This affair is no common occurrence, hence this band of criminals were immediately executed. K'ang Yü Wei is the leader and originator of thes rebellious schemes; his crime is exceeding great and he must not be permitted to escape a public execution. The crime of these men has now been fixed and it must be published over the Empire that all men may know that We establish the Throne upon ancient Rites and Teaching.

If K'ang Yü Wei be not brought under the law, both men and gods must detest him as beyond the pale of forgiveness, and he would succed in influencing others to imitate him and thus there would be many rebellious subjects. As the Court is thoroughly informed, Our heart is very compassionate and We have issued a decree not to pursue them farther. Hereafter let all officials and people be warned by the example of K'ang Yü Wei. Let all obey the teachings(of Confucius) and assist in the present difficulties, and in all reforms that are beneficial to Government and people, not only such reforms as are already in operation, but to adopt such others as may be found necessary to do away with effete and useless customs. Let them proceed in regular order. The Emperor hopes that this may be made widely known to all.

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Enclosure No. 7 in Despatch No. 54

North China Daily News.

THE CAUSE OF THE *COUP D'ETAT* AT PEKING.

Sept 27-98

A private Chinese dispatch from Peking dated the 25th of September, says:—It is confidently asserted that one of the last memorials by Kang Yü-wei to the Emperor was an earnest warning to his Majesty to be on his guard against his enemies. Kang strongly urged the advisability of removing the Empress Dowager to some other Palace where she could not interfere with the reform measures of his Majesty. Another suggestion was that Li Hung-chang should be deported to his native city and placed under surveillance. For if allowed longer to go about at pleasure within the palace precincts, his close intimacy with the Empress-Dowager and underhand treachery would one day put a stop entirely to the new *régime*, and all this hard labour would be lost for ever, by the formation of a powerful league against the Emperor. In this connection Kang denounced a number of the most bigoted of the Imperial Clansmen, who he thought were anxious to make away with his Majesty in some way or other. Although this memorial was kept strictly secret by the Emperor it somehow leaked out and so forced the Empress Dowager and her party's hand, and she was compelled to assert herself at once. Under advice of the senior members of the Imperial Clan she deposed his Majesty, ordering the instant arrest of the author of the secret memorial for high treason, and of all who had "unduly influenced the ex-Emperor." Had the Empress-Dowager's hand not been forced in this way, the decline of his Majesty's power would doubtless have been much more gradual.

THE VICEROY JUNG LU'S JOURNEY TO PEKING.

Sept 28-98

A Tientsin telegram received yesterday states that "the Grand Secretary and Viceroy of Chihli, Jung Lu, started for Peking by special train almost immediately after the receipt of the Empress Dowager's edict commanding his immediate presence at the palace. There was no ceremony of handing over of the seals when Yuan Shih-kai (better-known as the Chinese ex-Resident at Seoul) took over the acting Viceroyship of the Peiyang Administration." To the superficial observer this last sentence may not mean much, but it really possesses a meaning of the greatest significance and political importance. In other words, Viceroy Jung Lu took his seals along with him to Peking, for by the possession of them he has the supreme control of the armies of Chihli province and the naval forces of the Peiyang Administration, which in a crisis like the present makes him the master of the situation. But Jung Lu is a senior member of the Imperial Clan, which powerful body is said to have considerably strengthened the hands of the Empress Dowager and of Li Hung-chang in their recent deposition, and possibly murder, of the Emperor; and above all things Jung Lu has the name of being a thorough courtier. The favours and high honours which the Emperor for at least eighteen months past has literally rained upon this high official as a mark of Imperial esteem and confidence ought to make him anxious to hasten to his Imperial master's side; but there is too much reason to fear that he goes up as one of the leaders of the Imperial Clansmen and chief supporters of the Empress Dowager.

Enclosure No. 7 in Despatch No. 47

North China Daily News.

The Oriental Hotel, Ld

Change of Management.

BY ORDER.

SHANGHAI ENGINEERING, SHIPBUILDING & DOCK CO. LIMITED.

Enclosure No. 8 in Despatch No. 54

The
North China Daily News.

IMPARTIAL NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, 27TH SEPTEMBER, 1898.

THE *COUP D'ETAT* AT PEKING.

THE indications are that the conspiracy that has resulted in the deposition of the Emperor and the return to power of the reactionaries under the Empress Dowager, is a Manchu conspiracy, and that the ringleaders of it are, as we surmised on Saturday last, the Imperial Clansmen who are disgusted with the way in which they have been treated by the Emperor under the advice of his Chinese friends, Kang Yu-wei and others. This discontent has been growing for some time, as we hinted more than a week ago, and it was brought to a head by the Emperor's dismissal of Li Hung-chang, for which we are now assured Sir Claude Macdonald is in no way responsible. The Emperor himself seems to have found out what was going on in his palace, for he learnt of a letter from the Empress Dowager to Li, telling the latter that he retained his Grand-Secretaryship and that everything would be put right before long. It was the Emperor himself who warned Kang Yu-wei in a private note on the 18th that he had better get out of Peking as soon as possible, as he had too many enemies at the capital. Just about the same time an edict was issued, which appeared in our columns on the 21st, asking why Kang Yu-wei had not gone to Shanghai as originally intended. The Emperor, we learn, was at that time in perfect health and taking great interest in the reforms that he has been making, and which were really his own work, under the advice of Kang Yu-wei and others. He was looking forward to his visit to Tientsin and one of his reasons for urging Shêng to hurry up with the Great Western Railway was that he wanted to be able to go and see Canton. Notwithstanding the Emperor's warning, Kang Yu-wei seems to have had no idea that his life was in danger until, when on board the *Chungking* at Woosung, he was given indubitable proof of the Taotai's pleasant intention to remove him at once by the "slicing process." Not only does Kang Yu-wei know too much about what has been going on lately in the palace, but the Empress-Dowager seems to have some special reason for wishing that Kang may not get back to Canton.

Events have marched very quickly since the escape of Kang from Peking. On the 22nd the decree was issued in the Emperor's name by which his aunt (not his mother) the Empress-Dowager was once again invested with the government of the Empire, the Emperor promising to *kotow* before her on the 23rd. This decree we published on the 23rd, and in the same issue of the *North-China Daily News* we published the rumour that the Emperor was dead and that Li Hung-chang would probably come back to power. On the 24th we published a number of telegrams from Peking. The Emperor's illness was most serious and it was feared that it might terminate fatally; Kang Yu-wei was to be arrested and decapitated; Chang Yin-huan was to be arrested and his property confiscated; the city gates of Peking were filled with police and soldiery searching all who went in or came out; Kang Yu-wei's younger brother, against whom no charge whatever has been made public, has been thrown into prison and will be executed immediately; and Woo Jim-pah, the well-known ex-Compradore of the Hongkong Bank at Tientsin, has been cashiered and had his property confiscated. The Empress Dowager has a wonderful scent for other people's property, and Li Hung-chang himself must sometimes feel a little doubt whether he is not himself almost too tempting a morsel, bound to him by various ties though the Empress is.

Yesterday morning we published another interesting set of telegrams. The Censor Sung Peh-lu and a large number of Cantonese officials, Censors, Hanlin, or Board Secretaries in rank, are added to the list of victims of the Reign of Terror in Peking. A poor ex-Secretary of Legation who did not learn of the *coup d'état* in time, has been cashiered and deported to his native city for sending in a memorial advocating reform, in compliance with the Imperial edict permitting any would-be reformer to memorialise the Emperor direct. We are assured that the Emperor really did *kotow* to his usurping aunt on Friday, and that on Saturday he sat beside her and assisted her to receive her Ministers of State. It is explained that all reports of his illness have been disseminated by the members of the Kang faction; and as they are being rooted out as rapidly as possible, the Emperor will very soon be perfectly well. In fact, it is stated that at the audience on Saturday nothing seemed to be the matter with him. The assumption of the supreme power in China by the Empress Dowager has no warrant whatever; it is a usurpation. As the mother of the late Emperor Tung Chih she was after a time during Tung Chih's minority given an equal share in the regency with the actual widow of Tung Chih's father, the Emperor Hsien Fêng. In the edict issued thirty-seven years ago, by which the Empress Dowager now dead assumed the regency on the death of Hsien Fêng, it is distinctly stated that "there is no precedent, it is true, in the time of our Dynasty, for the regency of an Empress Dowager;" and there is certainly no precedent for the aunt of the Emperor assuming the regency when the Emperor is of full age and quite capable of ruling. However, it is fair to add that this palace intrigue does not seem to be considered among foreigners in Peking nearly so serious as it seems to us here, and it will still take some days before we know for certain all that has occurred.

There is an idea, particularly among those who see the hand of Russia in everything sinister that occurs in the north, that M. Pavloff has suggested this move as the reply to the dismissal of Li Hung-chang. We believe, however, that it is intrinsically a Palace intrigue, such as occurs from time to time at every Oriental Court. The Reformers have had their chance for a little while and now the Reactionaries have overpowered them for the time. That the Reformers must succeed in the end, if there is to be any China left, is certain; meanwhile M. Pavloff will undoubtedly make all the use he can of the incident, and Sir Claude Macdonald and Admiral Seymour must do what they can not to let him make too much of it.

Enclosure No. 9 in Despatch No. 54

North-China Daily News.

IMPARTIAL NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, 28TH SEPTEMBER, 1898.

THEORIES OF THE *COUP*.

SOME day we may know the true truth about the recent *coup d'état* in Peking, through that is not certain, but meanwhile it is interesting for future reference to put on record the theories that are floating about as to its cause or causes. One theory is sent us by an old resident in China. It will be remembered that in the original decree of the 22nd inst. it was stated that the Empress Dowager was coming to share the toils of Government with the Emperor, and there was nothing about the deposition of the latter. Our correspondent says that the Emperor asked the Empress Dowager to come and help him on account of the increase of public business, and because he has a sincere respect for her. He sits with her on the same throne as Emperor and is not deposed or likely to be. It is doubtful if the Manchus want to depose him, as he has only offended a few of them. They all fear Russia, and it would be too dangerous to depose the Emperor, as they do not know what course Russia might take. The Emperor and Empress Dowager are now reigning together and have a good understanding with each other. He continues his reign with her influence to aid him; she is fully trusted by the Manchus, and he has offended some of the Imperial Clansmen, and this made it convenient for him to ask her to come and help him. But he will never think of resigning and she has neither the will nor the power to depose him. She is too prudent, intelligent, and well-educated to wish to do this; but he is a little rash, though well-intentioned, and she thinks her return to the seat behind the curtain may be of real use to him. As regards the persecution of Kang and Liang, that is only because they have urged the Emperor into too many reforms. The secret decree issued by the Empress ordering the immediate arrest and decapitation of Kang Yu-wei was induced by the story told her by some of the Ministers (Manchus) that the Emperor was indisposed in consequence of having taken some medicine given him by Kang Yu-wei. There was nothing in the Chinese papers yesterday to indicate the resignation or deposition of the Emperor.

This account seems to us altogether too Arcadian. If the Empress has merely assumed a joint control of the reins at the request of the Emperor, how are we to account for the proscription of reformers that has followed? For the capital sentence passed without trial on Kang Yu-wei? For the cashiering of the ex-Secretary of Legation who was only obeying the Emperor's own edict? And for the cashiering of the heads of the *Bureaux* established by the Emperor?

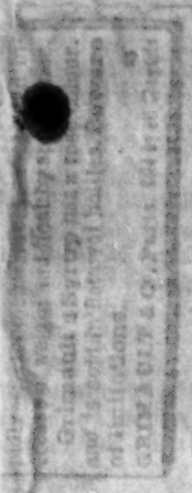
The *Peking and Tientsin Times* believed that an attempt had been made to poison the Emperor, but that he was not dead. It says: "As usual in China it was almost impossible to obtain any reliable information;" and then it says:—

We have two prominent facts before us, and only two on which argument can be based: the poisoning of the Emperor; the Regency of the Empress Dowager. The relations of the Emperor and Empress Dowager have been proverbial, and the positive determination of the latter to assume the reins of power whenever opportunity offered is equally familiar. Whenever the right hand man of the Empress has not been in power this determination has asserted itself more emphatically, and it is significant that the present *coup* succeeds so quickly upon the dismissal of the Grand Councillor from office. It is quite possible that no such favourable opportunity to dethrone the Young Emperor has presented itself before, as during the life of Prince Kung the actions of the Empress were to a great extent under restraint. A new era had however begun to dawn in Peking. The reform party was gaining rapidly upon conservatism, and with the dismissal of Li Hung-chang the Empress saw there was not a moment to be lost if the interests of that Power she is believed to favour and her own personal interests were to be served. The present events might and probably would have happened in spite of Li remaining in office, as we heard some time ago that the Empress was trying to persuade a Court physician to doctor the unfortunate Emperor according to her prescription; but that the whole miserable business has been hastened by Li's dismissal there can be little doubt.

The Peking letter which we published yesterday, and which came from a very high Chinese official source, contains a very plausible theory of the *coup d'état*. It is most probable that Kang Yu-wei had begun to feel that the Emperor's position as well as his own was getting a little insecure in consequence of the enmity aroused by their zeal for reform; and it is not at all improbable that he made to the Emperor the very obvious suggestions that the Empress Dowager should be removed to some more distant palace where she could not interfere so directly in public business, and the arch-schemer Li be sent to his native province under surveillance. The old Empress Dowager is much too clever to let the Emperor get letters the purport of which is not made known to her, and she lost no time in making her *coup*, and issuing an order for the immediate arrest of Kang Yu-wei, of which the Emperor on his side got wind in time to warn Kang to make himself scarce. This, as we have said, is a very plausible theory, and it comes from one who is as likely to know as any one in Peking not actually an actor in the drama.

The theory that Russia and Li Hung-chang are jointly the authors of the *coup* we do not entertain. That M. Pavloff and his Chinese tool will turn the incident to their best advantage we do not doubt, but we do not suppose that they brought it about, except as far as Li's advice may have weight with the Empress Dowager. In Peking generally, except at the British Legation, the change seems to be taken much less seriously than here. The trouble with the Emperor is that he has no children, and according to our correspondent, this has been seized upon by the Empress Dowager as an opportunity to settle the succession to the Throne so as to please herself. We believe that the Emperor has been virtually deposed because he has offended the Imperial Clansmen and many of the old Conservatives in Peking by his practical devotion to reform. He is physically weak, though well-intentioned, and his zeal has been too much for him. He has the Right, but the Empress Dowager has the command of much more money than he has, and a vigorous will, and intelligence to use her powers. If the Emperor had been allowed to go on with his reforms, he would have rallied to his side all the best elements in the Empire, and her chance of getting hold of the power again was diminishing every day. She had to make a bold stroke promptly, and she has made it. It will be interesting to see how it results.

The decree we publish this morning as to the illness of the Emperor is very ominous, and it is also rumoured that Chang Yin-huan has been executed, and no doubt we shall hear of other similar atrocities.



Enclosure No. 7 in Despatch No. 574

ton, Paints, Oils, Varnishes.
Tacoma Lumber Co.

IMY. Telephone, 106
HOW ROAD.

Shanghai, July, 1898.

CYCLERY.
how Road.

Proprietor.

s from $75
up to $200

are guaranteed 3 years.

in Shanghai.

30th September, 1898.

ANTON.

ILLINERY.

DRAPERY AND
G STORES.

HONGKEW
Shanghai, 23rd Sept., 1898.

THE undersigned have been appointed agents for Messrs. T. COOKE & SONS for the Sale of THEODOLITES, TACHEOMETERS, LEVELS, SEXTANTS, PRISMATIC COMPASSES, CLINOMETERS, PLANIMETERS, CHAINS, TAPES, STEEL BANDS, and all SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTS.

For further information and particulars, apply to

ILBERT & Co.

Shanghai, 3rd August, 1898.

SEN KAISHA

TOKIO, JAPAN.

EAN LINE.

ICAN LINE.

LIAN LINE.

to AUSTRALIA

TIENTSIN

NAGAI,

Shanghai, 22nd September, 1898.

ILLANEOUS.

OF REMOVAL.

oved our Office to Road.

HICKERTON & Co.,
Shanghai, 30th Sept., 1898.

WANTED.

A & CO.,
neral Brokers,
on Agents.
TS FOR

REWING ASSOCIATI
LOUIS.
OBACCO Co., ST. LOUIS
ro, Egyptian Cigarettes.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.

DIPLOMATIC
Received 3:30 o'clock P.M.
Deciphered By
Wm. H. Michael Chief Clerk.
OCT 4 1898
4:15 o'clock M.
Copies delivered to
The Press Bureau

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
Ans'd, Tel. Oct 3 -
Confirm both. ads
OCT 3 1898

DEPT. OF STATE
REC'D.
3 OCT 1898
EXEC. BUREAU

Telegram received in cipher

Peking, Oct 1, 1898

Received 3:18 P.M.

Conger
Oct. 4.

Day,

Washington.

Street mob yesterday attacked foreigners en route railway to city, including Bishop Cranston's family. No one seriously hurt. The Government promises adequate measures to prevent recurrence.

Conger.

Telegram received in cipher

Peking, Oct 3, 1898

Received 3:15 P.M.

Day.

Washington.

Street mob yesterday attacked foreigners on route railway to city, including Bishop Graeston's family. No one seriously hurt. The Government promises adequate measures to prevent recurrence.

Conger.

Form No. 282.

DIPLOMATIC,
OCT 3 1898
BUREAU.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D.
3 OCT 1898
DEPT. OF STATE

From United States Legation,

Peking, China, October 1, 1898.

(Received 11.53 p.m.)

COPIED. FOREIGN RELATONS.

3rd. ASST. SECRETARY.
OCT 2 1898

Conf's Oct. 4.

DAY,

Washington.

Not serious danger yet. Considerable anxiety for future; foreign fleets assembling Tein-Tsin. Some Ministers ordering marines to Peking for Legation guards. We should have war vessel Tien-Tsin instructed to send marines at my order if necessary.

CONGER.

Deciphered by Fuller

, 189 , M.

No. 56

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October 1st, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Acknowledgment of the Department's instructions received during the month of September, 1898.

(Despatch No. 33, September 1st, 1898).

No. 55

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October 1st, 1898.

To the Honorable

William R. Day,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

Referring to my despatch No. 33, of September 1st last,- I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Department's instructions No. 8 to No. 20, inclusive; also instruction dated August 16th, 1898, without number,

and to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

Had been given to the press by direction of Sec. Hay.

Telegram received in cipher

Penang, Oct. 1, 1898

Received 12:50 A.M.

Scott
Oct. 4.

Day,

Washington.

Six alleged conspirators executed by order of Empress yesterday. Kang, leading reformer, adviser of Emperor, escaped on British vessel. Emperor is reported dangerously ill. Order and quiet prevail here. Trouble feared at some interior points not yet heard from.

Conger.

Telegram received in cipher

Penang, Oct. 1, 1898

Received 12:30 A.M.

Day.

Washington.

Six alleged conspirators executed by order of Empress yesterday. Kang, landing reformer, adviser of Emperor, escaped on British vessel. Emperor is reported dangerously ill. Order and quiet prevail here. Trouble feared at some interior points not yet heard from.

Conger.

No. 56

DIPLOMATIC,
NOV 29 1898
BUREAU.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
Ack. Approve Mr. Conger's course and await the result of the representations of the Dip. Body.
NOV 28 1898

INDEX BUREAU REC'D. 28 NOV 1898 DEPT. OF STATE

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October 1st, 1898.

Acted Dec. 1/98

COPIED. FOREIGN RELATIONS.

COPIED FOR CONGRESS.

To Congress Jl. 10

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject. Attack made upon Mr. H.H. Lowry, a citizen of the United States and a missionary living at Peking. Disturbed state of affairs at the capital. Action taken by Diplomatic body. Telegram of the 30th ultimo confirmed.

No. 56

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October 1st, 1898.

To the Honorable

William R. Day,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

I have the honor to confirm, on the overleaf, my cipher telegram of October 1st , and to enclose a copy of letter of Rev. H. H. Lowry giving a succinct account of the attack upon his party.

At about the same time, or at least while they were coming from the same train, three other attacks were made by the same crowd and near the same place; one on a couple of Japanese students, another on an English gentleman and lady, and still another upon the English Customs or Postal Agent. None were seriously injured; but all roughly handled and their carts and chairs badly damaged.

September 30th was the great day of the mid-autumn festival, nobody at work, and the streets, especially this highway to the railway station, were thronged with idle and

and

and hilarious people.

As this is the first time an attack of this magnitude has occurred in Peking, it was, at first, thought to have been a spontaneous movement of the crowd, following the lead of some thoughtless loafer, and all without any premeditation; but it was afterwards learned that besides the above mentioned attack, on the same day and in different parts of the city, a French priest was attacked and the Marquise Salvago, wife of the Italian Charge d'Affaires, was jeered and insulted while passing along the streets in her chair, - then it was concluded that there must be some new and general occasion for this unexpected outburst here against foreigners.

It may probably be ascribed to the fact, that, in order to pacify the people and justify the Empress Dowager in her dethronement of the Emperor and complete assumption of power, the story of his alleged plot against the Empress Dowager has been given out in such a way, that foreigners are connected with it.

This could very easily be done, since the Emperor's reform policy led generally along western lines and a general infusion among the populace of antipathy towards all foreigners in consequence would not be improbable.

The

6

begin

The attack was reported to me while yet in progress, and I immediately sent messengers, both to the Tsungli Yamen and the Gendarmerie, demanding aid; but it was over before help had time to arrive. However, a messenger arrived about 8. P.M. with information that six persons had been arrested and other arrests would follow. I have by the note, a copy of which I enclose, also made formal presentation of the case to the Tsungli Yamen, and demanded that immediate and adequate measures be taken to insure the safety of our people along this thoroughfare, and also elsewhere, where their llegitimate business may call them.

/2

After my note had already gone to the Tsungli Yamen, a meeting of the Diplomatic Corps was called, a note prepared, unanimously approved and the Dean instructed to transmit it to the Tsungli Yamen.

I will enclose a copy of the note as well as the reply of the Tsungli Yamen thereto, in a succeeding despatch.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

Enclosures:

1. Mr. Lowry to Mr. Conger, September 30th, 1898.
2. Mr. Conger to the Tsungli Yamen, October 1st, 1898.

TELEGRAM SENT.

Peking, China October 1st, 1898.

(Cipher).

Day,

Washington.

Street mob yesterday attacked foreigners en route railway to city including Bishop Cranston's family. No one seriously hurt. The government promises adequate measures to prevent recurrence.

(Signed). Conger.

Enclosure No. / in Despatch No. 56

Peking, September 30th, 1898.

My dear Mr. Conger:

To-day as Mabel and myself were on the way to the Station to meet Mrs. Cranston and daughters we were set upon by an immense crowd on the Ch'ien Men great street. They began by throwing clods and then large stones and anything they could get hold of. In order to protect my daughter from the fierceness of the attack I dismounted and urged her to go on ahead. I was struck a large number of times both by the clods and stones. I received one very severe blow on the the side and several cuts on the head. I met some mounted soldiers led by a mandarin with a white button. Iaccosted him and asked for his protection. He would not even give me his name, but told me to go on. After he passed the attack was more fiercethan ever and the crowd followed us nearly to the Yung Ting gate. At the gate I went to the police station and informed them of what had occurred and requested that as we returned they should give us an escort. The police man said it was not in his disgrict.

On the return journey Mrs. Cranston and Miss Cranston were in chairs. Bishop Cranston's other two daughters and myself and daughter were in carts. In order to avoid the crowd we followed close along the wall of the Temple of Heaven. When more than a quarter of a mile away the crowd saw the chairs and made a rush for them. They at once began stoning the chairs and the bearers being hit put the chairs down.

Enclosure No. 1 in Despatch No. 45

Peking, September 30th, 1898.

My dear Mr. Conger:

To-day as Mabel and myself were on the way to the Station to meet Mrs. Cranston and daughters we were set upon by an immense crowd on the Ch'ien Men great street. They began by throwing clods and then large stones and anything they could get hold of. In order to protect my daughter from the fierceness of the attack I dismounted and urged her to go on ahead. I was struck a large number of times both by the clods and stones. I received one very severe blow on the side and several cuts on the head. I met some mounted soldiers led by a mandarin with a white button. Indicated him and asked for his protection. He would not even give me his name, but told me to go on. After he passed the attack was more fierce than ever and the crowd followed us nearly to the Yung Ting gate. At the gate I went to the police station and informed them of what had occurred and requested that as we returned they should give us an escort. The police man said it was not in his district.

On the return journey Mrs. Cranston and Miss Cranston were in chairs. Bishop Cranston's other two daughters and myself and daughter were in carts. In order to avoid the crowd we followed close along the wall of the Temple of Heaven. When more than a quarter of a mile away the crowd saw the chairs and made a rush for them. They at once began stoning the chairs and the bearers being hit put the chairs down.

down. I got out of the cart in order to give protection to the ladies. The Chairs were severely damsged by the stones. I again ran to the police house near by and asked for protection but the police man said that he could not do anything.

The ladies got through without being hurt .

Very respectfully,

(Signed) H.H.Lowry.

P.S. The police station that I called on for protection was first, the station just inside the Yung Ting gate and the police-man I spoke to was named Chung and on my return a small guard house north of the Temple of Heaven. But friendly Chinese went to the Tung Chu and Hsi Chu yamens at the T'ien Ch'iao.

I think the arrest of persons without dealing severely with the police officials who were absolutely indifferent would be of no use. In one case the Chinese friend who sought protection for us was thrust out of the office with revilings and threats.

H.H.L.

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The ladies got through without being hurt.

Very respectfully,

(Signed) H.H.Lowry.

P.S. The police station that I called on for protection was first, the station just inside the ~~Yung Ting~~ gate and the police-man I spoke to was named Chung and on my return a small guard house north of the Temple of Heaven. But fortunately Chinese went to the Tung Chu and Hsi Chu yamens at the T'ien Ch'iao.

I think the arrest of persons without dealing severely with the police officials who were absolutely indifferent would be of no use. In one case the Chinese friend who sought protection for us was thrust out of the office with revilings and threats.

H.H.L.

Enclosure No.2 in Despatch No. 56

No.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October Ist, 1898.

The Undersigned, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America, in addition to the informal notice sent Your Highness and Your Excellencies of the Tsungli Yamen on yesterday, concerning the attack then being made upon a party of American Citizens quietly proceeding from the railway station to the city, now has the honor to transmit the particulars embodied in the enclosed copy of a communication from Rev. H.H.Lowry, a member of the party attacked, and who was personally injured by the missiles of the mob.

The Undersigned is surprised to learn that such an affair could happen at the very door of the Imperial Capital practically in the very midst of soldiers and police, and that these officials should persistently refuse the assistane and protection requested by the parties attacked.

In view of this, and the consequent danger of future troubles of like kind, it is the duty of the Undersigned to demand that such immediate precautions be taken, by the increase of a properly instructed police or military force,

the

To

His Highness, Prince Chung,

And Their Excellencies of the Tsungli Yamen,

etc., etc., etc.

Enclosure No.2 in Despatch No. 96

No.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October 1st, 1898.

The Undersigned, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America, in addition to the informal notice sent Your Highness and Your Excellencies of the Tsungli Yamen on yesterday, concerning the attack then being made upon a party of American Citizens quietly proceeding from the railway station to the city, now has the honor to transmit the particulars embodied in the enclosed copy of a communication from Rev. H.H.Lowry, a member of the party attacked, and who was personally injured by the miscreants or the mob.

The Undersigned is surprised to learn that such an affair could happen at the very door of the Imperial Capital practically in the very midst of soldiers and police, and that these officials should persistently refuse the assistance and protection requested by the parties attacked.

In view of this, and the consequent danger of future troubles of like kind, it is the duty of the Undersigned to demand that such immediate precautions be taken, by the increase of a properly instructed police or military force, the

To

His Highness, Prince Chung,

And Their Excellencies of the Tsungli Yamen,

etc., etc., etc.

the issuance of forcible public proclamations, arrest and punishment of offenders and derelict officers, or other energetic measures which will insure the safety of American subjects passing peaceably along the highway from the railway station to their residences, or elsewhere, where their legitimate business may call them.

This matter is of the gravest importance and should have the promptest and most energetic attention.

The Undersigned avails himself of the occasion to assure Your Highness and Your Excellencies of his highest consideration.

(Signed) E.H.Conger.

the issuance of forcible public proclamations, arrest and punishment of offenders and derelict officers, or other energetic measures which will insure the safety of American subjects passing peaceably along the highway from the railway station to their residences, or elsewhere, where their legitimate business may call them.

This matter is of the gravest importance and should have prompt [illegible] and most energetic attention.

The Undersigned avails himself of the occasion to assure Your Highness and Your Excellencies of his highest consideration.

(Signed) E.H.Conger.

No. 57

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October 3rd, 1898.

Rec'd Dec 2/98

Mr Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Correspondence with Consul Bedloe relative to claim of Mr Isaacs against the Viceroy. Case does not justify diplomatic interference at this time.

No. 57

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October 3rd, 1898.

To the Honorable

William R. Day,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

1/ I have the honor to enclose copy of a telegram received from Consul Bedloe requesting my assistance through the Chinese Foreign Office, in the collection of a claim held by Mr. Isaacs, said to be an American citizen, against the Viceroy of Kwangtung, and my reply thereto giving my reasons for declining to interfere.

2/ I may add for the benefit of the Department, that I know nothing of Mr. Isaacs, but the firm of Spitzel and Company are in very bad order throughout China.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

Enclosures:

1. Mr. Bedloe to Mr. Conger, telegram, September 28, 1898.
2. Mr Conger to Mr. Bedloe, September 30th, 1898.

Enclosure No. 1 in Despatch No. 57

TELEGRAM RECEIVED.

Hongkong, September 28th, 1898.

Conger, Peking.

Merchant Sylvester sold Viceroy Canton goods receiving part payment negotiable promissory notes 15000 taels, due yesterday. Notes discounted by American citizen Isaacs. Payment refused. Reasons given bond given by Spitzel and Company to different party Chinese Customs covering entirely different transaction guarantee Sylve ster would return before October seventh certain consular certificates from Singapore. I am requested ask your good offices behalf American Isaacs urge Peking officials instruct Canton Viceroy pay money due Isaacs and when Spitzel and Company bond due October seventh, if conditions not complied with, their remedy is sue out bond, prove case, obtain judgment, collect from Spitzel Company, responsible firm with branches all over China from whom collections can be made, if proved due and not cause Isaacs, innocent third party purchaser negotiable paper, to suffer. I cable from Hongkong avoid text changed Canton.

(Signed) Bedloe.

TELEGRAM SENT.
(Cipher.)

Peking, September 30th 1898.

Bedloe, Canton.

Isaacs case not one justifying present diplomatic interference.

(Signed) Conger.

Enclosure No. 1 in Despatch No. 57

TELEGRAM RECEIVED.

Hongkong, September 29th, 1898.

Conger, Peking.

Merchant Sylvester sold Viceroy Canton goods receiving part payment negotiable promissory Notes. $5000 tael, due yesterday. Notes discounted by American citizen Isaacs. Payment refused. Reasons given bond given by Spitzel and Company to different party Chinese Customs covering entirely different transaction guarantee Sylvester would return before October seventh certain consular certificates from Singapore. I am requested ask your good offices behalf American Isaacs urge Peking officials instruct Canton Viceroy pay money due Isaacs and when Spitzel and Company bond due October seventh, if conditions not complied with, their remedy is sue out bond, prove case, obtain judgment, collect from Spitzel Company, responsible firm with branches all over China from whom collections can be made, if proved due and not cause Isaacs, innocent third party purchaser negotiable paper, to suffer. I cable from Hongkong avoid text changed Canton.

(Signed) Bodine.

TELEGRAM SENT.
(Cipher.)

Peking, September 30th 1898.

Bodine, Canton.

Isaacs case not one justifying present diplomatic interference.

(Signed) Conger.

Enclosure No. 2 in Despatch No. 57

Con. No.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 30th, 1898.

Edward Bedloe, Esquire,

United States Consul,

Canton.

Sir:-

I have the honor to confirm, on the overleaf, your telegram of the 28th instant from Hongkong and my reply thereto of today.

Of course my sympathies are aroused for Mr. Isaacs as they are always for the interests of my countrymen; but this is just the sort of case in which diplomatic interference is forbidden by the Department, except upon specific instructions.

It would seem that Mr. Isaacs has the same right to sue to recover judgment and collect his claim immediately upon maturing as the other parties will have to prove and collect their claim against Sylvester upon its maturing and each should stand upon its merits.

After Mr. Isaacs has exhausted the remedies guaranteed by our treaties and fails because of unjust or unlawful

treatment

Enclosure No. 3 in Despatch No. 97

Con. No.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 30th, 1899.

Edward Bodine, Esquire,

United States Consul,

Canton.

Sir:-

I have the honor to confirm, on the overleaf, your telegram of the 28th instant from Hongkong and my reply thereto of today.

Of course my sympathies are aroused for Mr. Isaacs as they are always for the interests of my countrymen; but this is just the sort of case in which diplomatic interference is forbidden by the Department, except upon specific instructions.

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After Mr. Isaacs has exhausted the remedies guaranteed by our treaties and fails because of unjust or unlawful

treatment

treatment by Chinese officials, he may then have a case against the Chinese Government which the Department will direct me to take up. In that case, I assure you I shall be glad to promptly present and vigorously press it.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) E.H.Conger.

treatment by Chinese officials, he may then have a case against the Chinese Government which the Department will direct me to take up. In that case, I assure you I shall be glad to promptly present and vigorously press it.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) E.H.Conger.

PRINTED IN ADVANCE SHEETS NO. 222.

No. 58

Navy Dept to State and Treasury Dec 16/98

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October 5th, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Supplementary Rules under Inland Steam Navigation Regulations.

(Despatch No. 18, July 31st, 1898).

No. 58

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China October 5th, 1898.

To the Honorable

William R. Day,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

Referring to my despatch No.18, of July 31st last,- I have the honor to transmit herewith a translation of a note from the Tsungli Yamen, dated the 15th ultimo, and also of the "Supplementary Rules under Inland Steam Navigation Regulations" which accompanied it.

A copy of these "Supplementary Rules" has been sent to all United States Consular officers in China.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

Enclosure:

Tsungli Yamen to Mr. Conger, September 15, 1898, together with accompanyments.

Enclosure No. 1 in Despatch No. 58

THE TSUNGLI YAMEN TO MR. CONGER.

No. 13. Peking, September 15th, 1898.

Your Excellency:-

The Prince and Ministers have the honor to inform Your Excellency that on the 27th of July last they received a telegram from the Superintendent of Southern Trade wherein he states that " he has received the revised rules relating to steam navigation inland and has given them his repeated consideration. He further states that upon examination he finds that the three supplementary rules as regard Custom's dues and duties, which had been revised by the Inspector-General, remain unchanged so far as the manner of collecting duties is concerned and that steamers are allowed to take cargo boats in tow, in this way granting the same privileges to both foreigners and Chinese.

"Now according to the new Supplementary Rules, the foreign merchants must pay duties according to treaty stipulations but the Chinese merchants only must pay likin as previously. In this way the foreign merchants gain an additional advantage and are freed from paying likin inland, thus bringing about an unfair distinction. It is also added that steamers on the Yangtsze are not allowed to take cargo boats in tow without a permit. This plainly shows that the foreign merchant can request his consul for the necessary permit. By this method the Chinese merchants would be placed at a disadvantage and forced to register thir names on the foreign lists, which would give them the right to fly flags, take out permits, and do as they pleased without opposition, thus doig

Enclosure No. — in Despatch No. 378

THE TSUNGLI YAMEN TO MR. CONGER.

No. 13. Peking, September 15th, 1899.

Your Excellency:-

The Princes and Ministers have the honor to inform Your Excellency that on the 27th of July last they received a telegram from the Superintendent of Northern Trade wherein he states that " he has received the revised rules relating to steam navigation inland and has given them his repeated consideration. He further states that upon examination he finds that the three supplementary rules as regard Custom's dues and duties, which had been revised by the Inspector-General, remain unchanged so far as the manner of collecting duties is concerned and that steamers are allowed to take cargo boats in tow. In this way granting the same privileges to both foreigners and Chinese.

"Now according to the new Supplementary Rules the foreign merchants must pay duties according to treaty stipulations but the Chinese merchants only must pay likin as previously. In this way the foreign merchants gain an additional advantage and are freed from paying likin inland, thus bringing about an unfair distinction. It is also added that steamers on the Yangtsze are not allowed to take cargo boats in tow without a permit. This plainly shows that the foreign merchant can request his consul for the necessary permit. By this method the Chinese merchants would be placed at a disadvantage and forced to register their names on the foreign lists which would give them the right to fly flags, take out permits, and do as they pleased without opposition, thus doing

away entirely with the likin inland on the Yangtze.

"The Superintendent of Southern Trade therefore requests that the previous rules be adopted and enforced."

Upon receipt of the above the Prince and Ministers addressed the Inspector General on the subject and received from him a reply wherein he states that"the arguments made by the Superintendent of Southern Trade were merely for the purpose of defending likin inland.

"Examination will show that the previous regulations were put in force as an experiment and were subject to change, and for that reason the 9 Supplementary Articles wee were decided upon and submitted to the Yamên for its approval."

The Yamên has considered the 9 Supplementary Rules decided upon by the Inspector General and finds them satisfactory.

Instfuctions have been sent to the various provinces to act according to said rules.

A communication also has been sent to the Superintendent of Southern Trade instructing him to duly observe them.

A necessary communication sent for Your Excellency's information.

Copy of Supplementary Rules enclosed.

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The Superintendent of Southern Trade therefore requests that the previous rules be adopted and enforced."

Upon receipt of the above the Prince and Ministers addressed the Inspector General on the subject and received from him a reply wherein he states that "the arguments made by the Superintendent of Southern Trade were merely for the purpose of defending Likin inland.

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The Yamen has considered the 9 Supplementary Rules decided upon by the Inspector-General and finds them satisfactory.

Instructions have been sent to the various provinces to act according to said rules.

A communication also has been sent to the Superintendent of Southern Trade instructing him to duly observe them.

A necessary communication sent for Your Excellency's information.

Copy of Supplementary Rules enclosed.

Supplementary Rules under Inland Steam Navigation Regulations.

(Translation.)

1. Foreign goods going inland on steamers can either be taken with transit passes or by payment of dues and duties at the several stations passed en route, at the merchants option. The vessels are not to be held in any way responsible for the terminal duties on cargo, but it must not be landed clandestinely.

2. Native goods leaving a Treaty port for the interior in a steamer must be declared at the proper Custom-house and pay export duty according to the regulation for outgoing cargo shipped in native vessels. They will pay inland whatever dues and duties are payable by similar goods carried in native vessels. If the goods declared are native re-exports which have originally paid export duty at another port, they may be shipped free of export duty, but as regards inland dues and duties are on the same footing as ordinary exports. The responsibility for any duties payable on goods at place of destination no matter where the vessel comes from attaches to the cargo and not to the vessel but the cargo must not be landed clandestinely.

3. Native goods once regularly shipped on board a steamer in the interior are not later required to produce proof of payment of such local duties as were leviable there before shipment but they are liable for en route duties.

On arrival at a Treaty port, they will, if for local native consumption, pay to the proper office the duties paid on similar cargo carried in native vessels. Outside this duty,

the

Supplementary Rules under Inland Steam Navigation Regulations.

1. Foreign goods going inland on steamers can either be taken with transit passes or by payment of dues and duties at the several stations passed en route at the merchants option. The vessels are not to be held in any way responsible for the terminal duties on cargo, but it must not be landed clandestinely.

2. Native goods leaving a Treaty port for the interior in a steamer must be declared at the proper Custom-house and pay export duty according to the regulation for outgoing cargo shipped in native vessels. They will pay inland whatever dues and duties are payable by similar goods carried in native vessels. If the goods declared are native re-exports which have originally paid export duty at another port they may be shipped free of export duty, but as regards inland dues and duties are on the same footing as ordinary exports. The responsibility for any duties payable on goods at place of destination no matter where the vessel comes from attaches to the cargo and not to the vessel but the cargo must not be landed clandestinely.

3. Native goods once regularly shipped on board a steamer in the interior are not later required to produce proof of payment of such local duties as were leviable there before shipment but they are liable for en route duties.

On arrival at a Treaty port, they will, if for local native consumption, pay to the proper office the duties paid on similar cargo carried in native vessels. Outside this duty

the

steamer is not to be held responsible for any likin, duty, contribution or charge.

If the native produce is intended for export, it may be brought from the interior either under a transit certificate issued on deposit of bond according to what are are known as the Chinkiang rules or by paying dues and duties in accordance with regulations en route, at the option of the merchant concerned whether a Chinese or a foreigner.

Goods brought from the interior merely for transmission into a seagoing or river steamer are not liable to any duty at the port except the Treaty tariff export duties.

4. All inland-going steamers are to pay Tonnage Dues once in four months at the Treaty tariff rate at the port where registered. Towed native boats are liable to such "Ch'uan liao" as the regulations provide for.

5. Cargo shipped on native boats to be towed by steamers is to be on the same footing as regards duty payment as the steamer's cargo.

6. Steamers are not allowed to land cargo except at places ordinarily recognized as places of trade for native vessels. In the event of their violating this rule they will be dealt with as the Tariff provides in the case of vessels frequenting places not open to trade. Similarly, vessels on the registers for inland waters' trade carrying goods out of Chinese territory or jurisdiction will be liable to a fine not exceeding Tls.200 for the first offence: for the second, the penalty will

be

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Goods brought from the interior merely for transmission into a seaport or river steamer are not liable to any duty at the port except the Treaty tariff export duties.

4. All inward-going steamers are to pay tonnage dues once in four months at the Treaty tariff rate at the port where registered. Towed native boats are liable to such "Ch'uan liao" as the regulations provide for.

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b

be abrogation of the right to carry on inland trade.

7. The Customs at the Treaty Ports will give Cargo Certificates detailing all the cargo shipped there under its cognisance. These Certificates will form the basis of duty payment at way stations, and the vessels concerned unless there is reason to suspect them of smuggling, will not be detained for rigid examination at each place, b but will be released on payment of proper duty.

8. As regards the publication of the RRles and Regulations in force at the several places where dues and d duties are payable, referred to in Rule 7, it is understood that the publication is to take place before the end of this Chinese year. In the meantime, if vessels do not stop at stations, they will not be liable to any penalty for passing them, unless they are hailed to bring to by the station or one of its boats and disregard the summons.

9. After the regulations have been notified the Provincial Authorities will appoint at each Treaty port a responsible officer who will collect on provincial account the dues and duties prescribed in Articles 2 and 3 on go goods going or coming from inland waters and report the collections at stated intervals to his superiors. He will receive in one lump sum all the dues and duties a vessel lading for a certain destination is bound to pay at the varios stations she will pass on the way. The officer will give a certificate of receipt, present- ation of which at the stations will exempt the goods fro

be abrogation of the right to carry on inland trade.

7. The Customs at the Treaty Ports will give Cargo Certificates detailing all the cargo shipped there under its cognizance. These Certificates will form the basis of duty payment at way stations and the vessels concerned unless there is reason to suspect them of smuggling will not be detained for rigid examination at each place, but will be released on payment of proper duty.

8. As regards the publication of the Rules and Regulations in force at the several places where dues and duties are payable, referred to in Rule 7, it is understood that the publication is to take place before the end of this Chinese year. In the meantime if vessels do not stop at stations they will not be liable to any penalty for passing them unless they are hailed to bring to by the station or one of its boats and disregard the summons.

9. After the regulations have been notified the Provincial Authorities will appoint at each Treaty port a responsible officer who will collect as provincial account the dues and duties prescribed in Articles 2 and 8 on goods going or coming from inland waters and report the collections at stated intervals to his superiors. He will receive in one lump sum all the dues and duties a vessel lading for a certain destination is bound to pay at the various stations she will pass on the way. The officer will give a certificate of receipt, present ation of which at the stations will exempt the goods from

levy of duty or vexatious examination.

The officer appointed will have an office in the vicinity of the Custom House and will work in concert with and under the guidance of the Commissioner. In case any question or difficulty arises the Commissioner and the Superintendent of Customs will arrange it amicably. When a foreigner is concerned, he has the option of having it dealt with under the Joint Investigation Rules.

These Supplementary Rules, like the Rules to which they are appended, are provisional and liable to change as required.

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These Supplementary Rules, like the Rules to which they are appended, are provisional and liable to change as required.

DIPLOMATIC,

No. 579 NOV 29 1898

BUREAU.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
Ack, approving Mr. Conger's watchfulness and prompt action.
NOV 28 1898

INDEX BUREAU
RECD.
28 NOV 1898
DEPT. OF STATE

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October 5th, 1898.

Ack Dec 1/98.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Report on the disturbances in the Province of Szechuan. Department's telegram of the 29th ultimo confirmed.

No. 59

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October 5th, 1898.

To the Honorable

William R. Day,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

I have the honor to confirm on the overleaf, Department's telegram of the 29th ultimo, and to enclose herewith copies of telegrams and correspondence to and from this Legation concerning the troubles in the Province of Szechuan, to which it referred.

/14

The Yü Mantze rebellion mentioned, is headed by a brigand of that name who seems to have organized a force against both foreigners and the Chinese government.

He has so thoroughly stirred up the people that he has an immense following, and the government so far appears powerless to suppress him, although they assure me that they are doing everything possible.

He

He is holding as prisoner, a French priest, whom he refuses to surrender and whom, a member of the Foreign Office tells me, the government hesitates to attempt to rescue by forced attack, for fear the priest will be immediately murdered.

Recent telegrams to the British and French Ministers report affairs at Chungking very critical, but I have nothing later than the enclosed from Consul Smithers. I shall insistently demand complete protection for our people there.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

Enclosures:

1. Mr. Smithers to Mr. Conger, September 7th, 1898.
2. Mr. Smithers to Mr. Conger, Telegram, Sept. 14th, 1898.
3. Mr. Conger to the Tsungli Yamen, Sept. 17th, 1898.
4. Mr. Smithers to Mr. Conger, telegram, Sept. 18th, 1898.
5. The Tsungli Yamen to Mr. Conger, Sept. 20th, 1898.
6. Mr. Conger to the Tsungli Yamen, Sept. 22nd, 1898.
7. Mr. Smithers to Mr. Conger, telegram, Sept. 22nd, 1898.
8. The Tsungli Yamen to Mr. Conger, Sept. 25th, 1898.
9. Mr. Smithers to Mr. Conger, telegram, Sept. 27th, 1898.
10. Mr. Conger to Mr. Smithers, Sept. 27th, 1898.
11. Mr. Conger to Mr. Smithers, telegram, Sept. 27th, 1898.
12. Mr. Conger to the Tsungli Yamen, No. 17, Sept. 27, 1898.
13. Mr. Conger to the Tsungli Yamen, No. 20, Sept. 30, 1898.
14. The Tsungli Yamen to Mr. Conger, October 4th, 1898.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED.

(Cipher).

Washington, September 29, 1898.

Conger,

Minister,

Peking.

Urgently require Chinese government protection American citizens province Szechuan.

(Signed) Adee.

Acting.

Enclosure No 1 in Despatch No. 59

United States Consulate.

Chungking, September 7th, 1898.

Sir:-

I have the honor to enclose herewith a copy of a paper with translation written by Yu Man-tze, and circulated in this city. I hear some were stuck up inside the city, but were torn down at once. This Yu Man-tze is the man who is holding the French priest a prisoner.

Writings of this kind have the tendency to inflate the feelings of the rowdies especially coming from one of Yu Man-tze's stamp, who up till now appears to be master of the situation as far as getting the priest liberated is concerned.

I am inclined to the belief that the French officials are not overanxious for the release of their national, seeing that great advantages would accrue to them, if he should die, or be put to death while in the custody of this rebel.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) Geo. F. Smithers.

Consul

With 1 Enclosure as above.

His Excellency E.H.Conger,

E.E. and M.P. of the United States,

Peking.

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Your obedient servant,

(Signed) Geo. F. Smithers.

Consul

With I Enclosure as above.

His Excellency E.H.Conger,

E.E. and M.P. of the United States,

Peking.

A Proclamation by Yu Man-tse.

Yu Tungchen, a patriot, and a Chinese subject, being aroused in my loyalness, and afflicted in being oppresed, I will inform you of everything.

Two hundred more years have passed, and we have fed on the land of our Emperor. What official in our countr is not loyal and filial. There are 16 characters, which were given by the Emperor Shun to the Emperor Yas which is handed until now, and can be learnt in the Boo of the Sages. How dare you become a convert of the foreigner or barbarian/ Foreigners have now come in ocean going vessels to trade and to propagate the Jesus religion, and have taken away the poor peoples' live lihood. They have done away with the the worshipping of the Great Sage, Emperor and Ancestral worship, and this injustice in sending Opium into the country and employing debauchery and ingenious ways to move the peoples' heart. From the Emperor Tao Kuang until now their metho have grown larger and larger, and their ways more cruel, so that they control our Emperor, the officials they hinder in their duties, and our Capital and provinces they trespass on, and employ ingenious ways to obtain our money.They take our children to eat as if they were food or fruit. The Imperial debt is extremely heavy. They have burnt our Imperial Palace and have taken away our Tributary States. Shanghai they have

appropriated

A Proclamation by Yu Man-tse.

Yu Tungchen, a patriot, and a Chinese subject, being aroused in my loyalness, and afflicted in being oppressed, I will inform you of everything.

Two hundred more years have passed, and we have fed on the land of our Emperor. What official in our country is not loyal and filial. There are 18 characters, which were given by the Emperor Shun to the Emperor Yao which is handed until now, and can be learnt in the Boo of the Sages. How dare you become a convert of the foreigner or barbarian\ Foreigners have now come in ocean going vessels to trade and to propagate the Jesus religion, and have taken away the poor peoples' live lihood. They have done away with the the worshipping of the Great Sage, Emperor and Ancestral worship, and this injustice in sending Opium into the country and employing debauchery and ingenious ways to move the peoples' heart. From the Emperor Tao Kuang until now their metho have grown larger and larger, and their ways more cruel, so that they control our Emperor, the officials they hinder in their duties, and our Capital and provinces they trespass on, and employ ingenious ways to obtain our money.They take our children to eat as if they were food or fruit. The Imperial debt is extremely heavy. They have burnt our Imperial Palace and have taken away our Tributary States. Shanghai they have appropriated

attacked Formosa, and forcedKiao-chou to become an open port and their intention is to divide China up. In elden time the foreigner or barbarian were never so unreasonable as they are today. The Emperor Hsien Feng had to fly to Jeh He which was due to the dogs and she sheep, forcing him to do so; therefore his thoughts must have been painful when he thought how powerful we were at the beginning of the new dynasty; so I think all our officials must have a grudge against them

I have never studied, but I understand the general meaning of being patriotic. I will attend to my own duties and not to unreasonable affairs.

There was a terrible convert who formerly imposed on a man by the name of Tsiang; the pfficial did not distinguish which was in the right or wrong, neither who wer was the upright person amongst the two. This matter enraged everybody but the crime fell on one person. For insta the pear tree said it was a peach tree; the swan escaped escaped from the fisherman's net. They have taken me to b a bandit(when I am not) and sent soldiers(but I have escaped)

We have permitted the tigers and wolves from the o other side of the ocean to escape and they have now killed our people. Inall my affairs heaven has always protected me. The converts in their plans and conduct always do things in the dark. This year during the 2nd Moo the converts used a lot of money and bought a traitorous person, so they seized and brought me to Jung Chong inte ing to kill me. The foreigners orbarbarians did not beli-

in

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There was a terrible convert who formerly imposed on a man by the name of Taiang; the official did not distinguish which was in the right or wrong, neither who was the upright person amongst the two. This matter outraged everybody but the crime fell on one person. For instance the pear tree said it was a peach tree; the swan escaped escaped from the fisherman's net. They have taken me to a bandit(when I am not) and sent soldiers(but I have escaped)

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In

in me but my friends did. So I will not tell the offici als the injustice that has been done to me, but I will tell the people. The thousands of people at the various Hsiens knew that I had suffered injustice so they came t to beg of the official to let me go. Magistrate Yang said as I had no crime he let me go and told me to go home. The traiterous foreigners said the city wall was s surrounded and the prison broken into andnpointed me out to be a notorious bandit. Soldiers were sent and I did not have anywhere to hide myself, so I cried to Heaven telling my woes.

I am now callecting these patriotic volunteers and have vowed to wash clean our Nation's disgrace. Those of all description belonging to our Great religion, be at peace and attend to your various duties and you will not in the least be disturbed. If my soldiers do not obey me I will at once have them beheaded. The officials of our Fus Chows and Hsiens, our soldiers and our runner all belong to our Emperor. If you all do not take any notice of me I will not in the least disturb you. I am only killing the foreigner, and not rebelling against the State. Should you still take me as a notorious bandi I will not give way to you, but will deal with you lik as if you were foreigners, and not as one of our Country's official. According to law you should be beheaded still I will be lenient to you.

Those who have become converts-who are many- you can alter your former ways by sending me money, wherby you can atone your crime. Yet if you do not do so I wil still allow you to change your faith. Those who have gr great understanding, and ability, and noted scholars

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you can atone your crime. Yet if you do not do so I wil
still allow you to change your faith. Those who have gr
great understanding, and ability, and noted scholars

if you would be willing to follow me I will treat you with great hospitality and will listen to you. It is my idea now to collect money and accomplish a big affair. What I am doing now is our Nation's revenge, to bring forth our Sage's doctrine; to atone the peoples unjust treatment, and to wash clean the injustice done to me.

I give my life to aid my country. I have soldiers b but have no rations; wherever my patriotic flag flies I hope you gentry will according to your capacity supply me with rice; when I put up, I only need one day's ration, when I leave I only want one night's ration. If my soldiers are not in distress andnhungry I am sure to accomplish my end.

The Japanese War Expenses of 300?000?000 taels and theis Year's Government loan of 600,000 taels. If His Majesty will grant me grace, I will cancel this all, as the present state of affairs at home and abroad are most perplexing.

I have explained my extreme sufferings and wish to cancel my crime.

Expel the dogs and sheep that have come from afar. Make ready our spears and lances, and the faithful; thi thinking of the bounty secured from the Emperor when we will do away with their cruelness. The above I have t ght thought of for months.

I respectfully notify you all.

If you would be willing to follow me I will treat you with great hospitality and will listen to you. It is my idea now to collect money and accomplish a big affair. What I am doing now is our Nation's revenge, to bring forth our Sage's doctrine; to atone the peoples unjust treatment, and to wash clean the injustice done to me.

I give my life to aid my country. I have soldiers but have no rations; wherever my patriotic flag flies I hope you gentry will according to your capacity supply me with rice; when I put up, I only need one day's ration, when I leave I only want one night's ration. If my soldiers are not in distress and hungry I am sure to accomplish my end.

The Japanese War Expenses of 300'000'000 taels and theis Year's Government loan of 800,000 taels. If His Majesty will grant me grace, I will cancel this all, as the present state of affairs at home and abroad are most perplexing.

I have explained my extreme sufferings and wish to cancel my crime.

Expel the dogs and sheep that have come from afar. Make ready our spears and lances, and the faithful; thinking of the bounty secured from the Emperor we will do away with their cruelness. The above I have thought of for months.

I respectfully notify you all.

Enclosure No. 2 in Despatch No. 59

Telegram.

Chungking, September 14th, 1898.

Conger,

Peking.

American and French Mission Stations Hochow attacked yesterday. Latter burned. No accounts any one killed. Taotai here powerless to avert. Magistrate pVace reported doing his best.

Smithers.

Enclosure No. 2. in Despatch No. 97

Telegram.

Chungking, September 14th, 1900.

Conger,

Peking.

American and French Mission Stations Hon-
chow attacked yesterday. Latter burned. No accounts any
one killed. Tsotai here powerless to avert. Magistrate
place reported doing his best.

Smithers.

Enclosure No. 3 in Despatch No. 59

The Legation of the United States has the honor to inform the Tsungli Yamen that it is in receipt of a telegram from the United States Consul at Chungking in which it is stated that the American and French missions at Ho-chow were attacked on the I3th instant and the latter burned, and further that the local authorities seemed to be powerless to protect the property and possibly the lives of the foreign residents.

It is therefore requested that the proper autherities will be immediately directed by telegraph to take prompt and stringent measures to prevent the spread of this riot and for the protection in life and property of American citizens.

The Legation will communicate further with the Tsungli Yamen on receipt of more detailed information.

Peking, September I7th, I898.

Enclosure No. 3 in Despatch No. 97.

The Legation of the United States has the honor to inform the Tsungli Yamen that it is in receipt of a telegram from the United States Consul at Chungking in which it is stated that the American and French missions at Ho-chow were attacked on the 13th instant and the latter burned, and further that the local authorities seemed powerless to protect the property and possibly the lives of the foreign residents.

It is therefore requested that the proper authorities will be immediately directed by telegraph to take prompt and stringent measures to prevent the spread of this riot and for the protection in life and property of American citizens.

The Legation will communicate further with the Tsungli Yamen on receipt of more detailed information.

Peking, September IVth, 1898.

Enclosure No. 4 in Despatch No. 59

Telegram.

Chungking, September 18th, 1898.

Conger,

Peking.

Matters Ho-chou, fifty miles distant, assumed graver proportions. Mission property completely destroyed. Native Christians flying for life.

(SIGNED) Smithers.

Enclosure No. 4 in Despatch No. 67

Telegram.

Chungking, September 18th, 1898.

Conger,

Peking.

Matters Ho-chou, fifty miles distant,
assumed grave proportions. Mission property completely
destroyed. Native Christians flying for life.

(SIGNED) Smithers.

Enclosure No. 5 in Despatch No. 59

The Tsungli Yamen to Mr. Conger.

Peking, September 20th, 1898.

Your Excellency:-

The Yamen has the honor to inform Your Excellency that it has received your note of yesterday stating that you were in receipt of a telegram from the United States Consul at Chungking in which he states that on the 13th instant a mob attacked the American and French missions at Ho-chou, which resulted in the burning of the latter; that the local authorities seemed unable to afford sufficient protection.

Your Excellency therefore requested that the proper authorities be immediately directed by telegraph to take prompt and stringent measures to prevent the spread of this riot and for the protection of the missionaries.

Upon receiving Your Excellency's note the Yamen sent a telegram the same evening to the Viceroy of Sze-chuan, instructing him to order the local officials to take active measures for the suppression of the disturbances and protection of the missionaries.

As soon as a reply is received to the Yamen's telegram Your Excellency will be notified.

In the meantime, as in duty bound, we send this note for Your Excellency's information.

Enclosure No. 3 in Despatch No. 57

The Tsungli Yamen to Mr. Conger.

Peking, September 20th, 1898.

Your Excellency:-

The Yamen has the honor to inform Your Excellency that it has received your note of yesterday stating that you were in receipt of a telegram from the United States Consul at Chungking in which he states that on the 13th instant a mob attacked the American and French missions at Ho-chou, which resulted in the burning of the latter; that the local authorities seemed unable to afford sufficient protection.

Your Excellency therefore requested that the proper authorities be immediately directed by telegraph to take prompt and stringent measures to prevent the spread of this riot and for the protection of the missionaries.

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As soon as a reply is received to the Yamen's telegram Your Excellency will be notified.

In the meantime, as in duty bound, we send this note for Your Excellency's information.

Enclosure No. 6 in Despatch No. 59

Note Verbale.

Referring to its note of the I7th instant, the Legation of the United States of America has the honor to inform the Tsungli Yamen that it is just in receipt of a telegram from the United States Consul at Chungking to the effect that matters at He-chow, fifty miles distant from there, have assumed grave proportions, the mission property destroyed on the I7th and native Christians flying for life.

Peking, September 22nd, I898.

To

The Tsungli Yamen.

Enclosure No. 6 in Despatch No. 57

Note Verbale.

Referring to its note of the 17th instant, the Legation of the United States of America has the honor to inform the Tsungli Yamen that it is just in receipt of a telegram from the United States Consul at Changking to the effect that matters at Ho-chow, fifty miles distant from there, have assumed grave proportions, the mission property destroyed on the 17th and native Christians flying for life.

Peking, September 22nd, 1898.

To

The Tsungli Yamen.

Enclosure No. 7 in Despatch No. 59

Telegram.

Chungking, September 22nd 1898.

Conger,

Peking.

Particulars mailed. Requested viceroy comply with Article eleven, treaty 1857. Says Emperor willing soldiers be sent. Apprehension guilty individual and punishment important prevent further rioting.

(Signed) Smithers.

Enclosure No. 7 in Despatch No. 57

Telegram.

Chungking, September 22nd 1898.

Conger,

Peking.

Particulars mailed. Requested viceroy com-
ply with Article eleven, treaty 1857. Says Emperor
willing soldiers be sent. Apprehension guilty individual
and punishment important prevent further plotting.

(Signed) Smithers.

Enclosure No. 8 in Despatch No. 59

The Tsungli Yamen to Mr. Conger.

Peking, September 25th, 1898.

Your Excellency:-

Referring to Your Excellency's note of the 17th instant requesting that prompt measures be taken to suppress the trouble at Ho-chou, near Chungking, we now have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 22nd instant. You therein state that you have received another telegram from the United States Consul at Chungking to the effect that matters at Ho-chou have assumed grave proportions, resulting in the complete destruction of the mission property, and compelling the native Christians to flee for life etc.

Immediately after Your Excellency's visit to the Yamen we sent a telegram to the Viceroy of Szechuan instructing him to make a speedy investigation and to give due protection.

In reply we received a telegraphic communication, saying that the United States Consul had requested that soldiers be sent to Ho-chou to afford protection. The Taotai addressed the United States Consul on the subject and stated that he was very much afraid to send a large number of soldiers to Ho-chou, because in so doing the populace would be greatly alarmed and very serious trouble might result. He asked the Consul and missionaries not to be alarmed but stated that deputies had been appointed to take active measures to prevent farther trouble and to bring the matter to a satisfactory settlement, etc.

On

Enclosure No. 8 in Despatch No. 57

The Tsungli Yamen to Mr. Conger.

Peking, September 25th, 1898.

Your Excellency:-

Referring to Your Excellency's note of the 17th instant requesting that prompt measures be taken to suppress the trouble at Ho-chow, near Chungking, we now have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 22nd instant. You therein state that you have received another telegram from the United States Consul at Chungking to the effect that matters at Ho-chow have assumed grave proportions, resulting in the complete destruction of the Mission property, and compelling the native Christians to flee for life etc.

Immediately after Your Excellency's visit to the Yamen we sent a telegram to the Viceroy of Szechuan instructing him to make a speedy investigation and to give due protection.

In reply we received a telegraphic communication, saying that the United States Consul had requested that soldiers be sent to Ho-chow to afford protection. The Taotai addressed the United States Consul on the subject and stated that he was very much afraid to send a large number of soldiers to Ho-chow, because in so doing the populace would be greatly alarmed and very serious trouble might result. He asked the Consul and missionaries not to be alarmed but stated that deputies had been appointed to take active measures to prevent further trouble and to bring the matter to a satisfactory settlement, etc.

On

On the same day, we received another telegram from the Taotai, saying that the Magistrate had had an interview with the missionaries in which he promised to make good all losses and to rebuild the mission houses. We have just received another telegram from Chengtu stating that an Expectant Prefect, Ch'en Sung-liang, has been sent to Ho-chou to make an investigation, etc.

Having received the above telegram relative to the Ho-chou trouble, stating that a speedy investigation has already been made by the provincial authorities we do not believe that there will be any farther difficulty. However, we have sent additional instructions to the provincial authorities to afford every protection and to bring the matter to a satisfactory settlement.

As in duty bound, we send this communication for Your Excellency's information with the request that you will communicate with the United States Consul and Missionaries begging them not to be unduly alarmed.

A necessary communication for Your Excellency's information.

On the same day, we received another telegram from the Taotai, saying that the Magistrate had had an interview with the missionaries in which he promised to make good all losses and to rebuild the mission houses. We have just received another telegram from Chengtu stating that an Expectant Prefect, Ch'en Sung-liang, has been sent to Ho-chou to make an investigation, etc.

Having received the above telegram relative to the Ho-chou trouble, stating that a speedy investigation has already been made by the provincial authorities we do not believe that there will be any further difficulty. However, we have sent additional instructions to the provincial authorities to afford every protection and to bring the matter to a satisfactory settlement.

As in duty bound, we send this communication for Your Excellency's information with the request that you will communicate with the United States Consul and Missionaries begging them not to be unduly alarmed.

A necessary communication for Your Excellency's information.

Enclosure No. 9 in Despatch No. 59

Telegram.

(In cipher)

Chungking, September 27th I89

Conger,

Peking.

Condition of affairs critical. Necessary that proclamation be posted in this city by Taotai that lawless persons committing riotous acts will be beheaded on the spot. Tsungli Yamen must order Taotai to at once comply. This procedure was followed in I885.

(Signed) Smithers.

Enclosure No. 4 in Despatch No. 83.

Telegram.

(In cipher)

Chungking, September 27th 1889

Consul,

Peking.

Condition of affairs critical. Necessary that proclamation be posted in this city by Taotai that lawless persons committing riotous acts will be beheaded on the spot. Taungli Yamen must order Taotai to at once comply. This procedure was followed in 1885.

(Signed) Smithers.

Enclosure No. 10 in Despatch No. 59

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 27th 1898.

George F. Smithers,

United States Consul,

Chungking.

Sir:-

Confirming your telegram of the 18th and 22nd instants and my telegram of the 27th instant, copies of which are hereto appended on the overleaf,- I have to say that the Tsungli Yamen have assured me that suc instructions had been sent to the Taotai and Viceroy as they believed would insure the necessary protection to the missionaries at Ho-chow and avoid further trouble, that an investigation had been started and a satisfactory settlement ordered.

Hoping this may prove true and awaiting full particulars by mail.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) E.H.Conger.

For above telegrams see

See Enclosures Nos. 4, 7, and 11.

Enclosure No. 10 in Despatch No. 57

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Peking, China, September 27th 1898.

George F. Smithers,

United States Consul,

Chungking.

Sir:-

Confirming your telegram of the 18th and 22nd instants and my telegram of the 27th instant, copies of which are hereto appended on the overleaf,- I have to say that the Tsungli Yamen have assured me that suc instructions had been sent to the Taotai and Viceroy as they believed would insure the necessary protection to the missionaries at Ho-chow and avoid further trouble, that an investigation had beenmatrted and a satisfactory settlement ordered.

Hoping this may prove true and awaiting full particulars by mail.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) E.H.Conger.

See Enclosures Nos. 4, 7, and 11.

Enclosure No. 14 in Despatch No. 59

Telegram.

Peking, September 27th, 1898.

Smithers,

Chungking.

Provisional authorities are instructed afford every protection and make satisfactory settlement.

(Signed) Conger.

Enclosure No. 11 in Despatch No. 57

Telegram.

Peking, September 27th, 1898.

Smithers,

Chungking.

Provincial authorities are instructed afford every protection and make satisfactory settlement.

(Signed) Conger.

Enclosure No. 12 in Despatch No. 59

F.O.No.17.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 27th, 1898.

The Undersigned Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America, has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the note of Your Highness and Your Excellencies of the 25th instant, concerning the Ho-chow trouble, in which it is stated that active measures have been taken to prevent further trouble, that instructions have been given to the provincial officials to afford every protection and bring the matter to a satisfactory settlement and that it is not believed that there will be further trou ble.

It is further stated that the Taotai has promised the missionaries to make good all losses and to rebuild the mission houses, and that Ch'en-Sung-liang has been s sent to Ho-chow to make an investigation.

The Undersigned begs to express his thanks for the prompt and energetic action in the matter.

This information will be immediately communicated to the United States consul, and as soon as particulars shall arrive will communicate further, if necessary

The Undersigned avails himself of the occasion to assure Your Highness and Your Excellencies of his highest consideration.

To His Highness, Prince Ching,

and Their Excellencies of the Tsungli Yamen.

etc., etc., etc.

Enclosure No. 13 in Despatch No. 574.

P.O.No.17.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 27th, 1898.

The Undersigned Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America, has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the note of Your Highness and Your Excellencies of the 25th instant, concerning the Ho-chow trouble, in which it is stated that active measures have been taken to prevent further trouble, that instructions have been given to the provincial officials to afford every protection and bring the matter to a satisfactory settlement and that it is not believed that there will be further trouble.

It is further stated that the Taotai has promised the missionaries to make good all losses and to rebuild the mission houses, and that Ch'en-Sung-liang has been sent to Ho-chow to make an investigation.

The Undersigned begs to express his thanks for the prompt and energetic action in the matter.

This information will be immediately communicated to the United States consul, and as soon as particulars shall arrive will communicate further, if necessary

The Undersigned avails himself of the occasion to assure Your Highness and Your Excellencies of his highest consideration.

To His Highness, Prince Ching,

and Their Excellencies of the Tsungli Yamen

Enclosure No./3 in Despatch No. 59

F.O.No.20.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 30th 1898.

The Undersigned, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America, has the honèr to inform Your Highness and Your Excellencies of the Tsungli Yamen, that he is in receipt of a telegraphic information that the situation in neighborhood of Chungking is alarmingly critical and his Government instructs him to insist that something effective be don at once to quiet this alarm and prevent continuance and spread of trouble and danger.

The undersigned, therefore, advises and requests that the Taotai be forthwith ordered to post up public proclamation in the city of Chungking and vicinity, threatening with immediate execution all lawless persons instigating or committing riotous acts against foreigner and also that he be immediately informed of whatever action is taken.

The Undersigned avails himself of the occasion to assure Your Highness and Your Excellencies of his highest consideration.

(Signed) E.H.Conger.

To

His Highness, Prince Ching,

and Their Excellencies of the Tsungli Yamen,

etc., etc., etc.

Enclosure No.1 in Despatch No.[illegible]

F.O.No.20.

F.O.No. LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, September 30th 1898.

The Undersigned, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America, has the honor to inform Your Highness and Your Excellencies of the Tsungli Yamen, that he is in receipt of a telegraphic information that the situation in neighborhood of Chungking is alarmingly critical and his Government instructs him to insist that something effective be done at once to quiet this alarm and prevent continuance and spread of trouble and danger.

The undersigned, therefore, advises and requests that the Taotai be forthwith ordered to post up proclamation in the city of Chungking and vicinity, threatening with immediate execution all lawless persons instigating or committing riotous acts against foreigners and also that he be immediately informed of what steps action is taken on to make an investigation.

The Undersigned avails himself of the occasion to assure Your Highness and Your Excellencies of his highest consideration.

(Signed) E.H.Conger.

To His Highness, Prince Ching,

and Their Excellencies of the Tsungli Yamen,

etc., etc., etc.

Enclosure No. 14 in Despatch No. 59

The Tsungli Yamen to Mr. Conger.

Peking, October 4th, 1898.

Your Excellency:-

The Prince and Ministers have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's communication of September 30th, in reference to the disturbance at Chungking, etc. (Quotation from your despatch.)

On examination it appears that because of the rebellion in the vicinity of Chungking in Szechuan of Yu Mantze the missionaries everywhere cannot avoid fear. We have received from the Viceroy of Szechuan a telegram that at that time he was obeying the Imperial Edict giving him secret instructions to send soldiers to take measures for the protection of the missionaries without any delay on account of this insurrection. The Therefore in obedience to the dispatch this Yamen sent another telegram to the Viceroy to command the Taotai to immediately post up proclamations in Chungking and vicinity, and that if again evil persons made a disturbance to arrest and punish them at once.

In addition it is our bounden duty to communicate this dispatch for Your Excellency to investigate.

Enclosure No. 4 in Despatch No. 59

The Tsungli Yamen to Mr. Conger.

Peking, October 4th, 1898.

Your Excellency:-

The Prince and Ministers have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's communication of September 30th, in reference to the disturbance at Chungking, etc. (Quotation from your despatch.)

On examination it appears that because of the rebellion in the vicinity of Chungking in Szechuan of Yu Wantze the missionaries everywhere cannot avoid fear. We have received from the Viceroy of Szechuan a telegram that at that time he was obeying the Imperial Edict giving him secret instructions to send soldiers to take measures for the protection of the missionaries without any delay on account of this insurrection. The Tsungli Yamen therefore in obedience to the dispatch this Yamen sent another telegram to the Viceroy to command the said to immediately post up proclamations in Chungking and vicinity, and that if again evil persons made a disturbance to arrest and punish them at once.

In addition it is our bounden duty to communicate this dispatch for Your Excellency to investigate.

No. 60

DIPLOMATIC,
NOV 29 1898
BUREAU.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
Ack & file.
NOV 28 1898

Acknd Dec 1/98

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October 6th, 1898.

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D.
28 NOV 1898
DEPT. OF STATE

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Proposed amendments to the land regulations of the Foreign Settlements at Shanghai. Viceroy has decided that such matters should be arranged between the Municipal Council and the consular body and need not be referred the Chinese authorities.

(Despatch No. 41, September 15th, 1898.)

No. 60

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October 6th, 1898.

To the Honorable

William R. Day,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

Referring to my despatch No. 41, of September 15th last, concerning certain proposed amendments to the land regulations of the Foreign Settlements at Shanghai,- I have the honor to report that the Viceroy of that jurisdiction has decided that these are matters to be satisfactorily arranged between the Municipal Council and the Consular body, and need not be referred, as heretofore, to the Chinese authorities.

This will in future save the settlements considerable trouble in case of needful amendments.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

No. 61

Acker Dec 1/98

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October 7th, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Confirming telegrams of the 1st and 7th instants. Present conditions demand presence of small guard, either at Tientsin or Peking. Guards for British, Russian and German Legations arrived Peking today. Guards for the French, Italian and Japanese Le- are to follow.

No. 61

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October 7th, 1898.

To the Honorable

William R. Day,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to confirm, on the overleaf, my telegrams of October 1st. and 7th., 1898.

I beg to report and emphasize my suggestions therein contained as to the importance of having some marines within reach of my orders, if found necessary to call them here for protection of the Legation.

Though the present situation in this vicinity is not alarming, and the probability of personal danger in Peking is quite remote, still the general situation in China is very critical.

The final solution, which must come soon, of the quarrel in the Imperial palace, will unquestionably bring about another crisis.

The

The present strained relations cannot long continue. Either the Emperor or the Empress Dowager will soon be put out of the way. The victim is most likely to be the Emperor because the Empress Dowager has all the power;but the death of the Empress Dowager,by assassination,poisoning or even by accident,while scarcely probable,is not,however,impossible.

If it is the Emperor,the incipient,and in some cases well developed,rebellion already started in many parts of the Empire,inflamed by the everlasting hatred of the Manchus by the Chinese,and abetted by the friends of the Emperor and reform,may gather force sufficient to eventually reach this capital.

If it should be the Empress Dowager,a rebellion would be precipitated here,the serious result of which cannot be predicted.

In either case,great responsibility for the trouble is sure to be ascribed by the ignorant masses to the foreigners,the danger of personal harm will not come from the organized forces on either side,but from the mob,and the Chinese government will be powerless to protect.

The presence alone of a small well armed guard,in a compound would probably insure the safety of any Legation, and in any event it could protect it from a Chinese mob of

almost

almost any size.

The other Legations are already so impressed with the gravity of the situation and consequent necessity of Legation guards, that the Russians have today placed in their compound twenty-five mounted Cossacks, the British thirty marines with a machine gun, the Germans twenty or thirty marines and the French, Japanese and Italians have ordered guards for theirs.

I do not regard the danger imminent, but the possibilities of the future are sufficiently threatening to warrant the presence, at least as near as Tientsin, of a guard that could be quickly brought to Peking, if necessary, before winter sets in, closes navigation and cuts off all possibility of aid.

There is undoubtedly some politics in the movements of Russians, British and Germans in the matter. Yet it would be most humiliating should trouble arise, and the representative of the United States be compelled to fly to any European Legation for protection. Besides it would belittle us very much in the estimation of the Chinese, as well as of the world; and a great naval power, such as the United States is now recognized to be, cannot afford to take the risk.

A guard of from twelve to twenty picked marines would,

in

in my judgment prove sufficient.

Our compound is small and already crowded,but accommadations can,in some way,be made for them if required.

I would,however,advise,if practicable,that one of the small vessels be ordered to proceed to and remain at Tientsin for the winter,so that the marines might stay on board until absolutely needed.

The Chinese government at first protested against the bringing of any foreign troops to Peking,but upon discovering that they were to be brought anyway,with or without their consent,and at the unanimous request of the Diplomatic Corps,through its Dean,a special train,a Chinese military escort,and other courtesies and facilities for their transportation were furnished.

I will transmit the correspondence between the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps and the Foreign Office as soon as I can obtain copies from him.

I venture to express the hope that the Department will, on the receipt of my telegram,agree to the propriety and necessity of my suggestion and will,long before the receipt of this despatch,have arranged with the Navy Department for the despatch of the requisite instructions to Admiral Dewey;but if not,there would still be time for a ship to

reach

TELEGRAMS SENT.

(Cipher).

Peking, October 1st, 1898.

Day,

Washington.

Not serious serious danger yet. Considerable anxiety for future. Foreign fleets assembling near Tientsin. Some Ministers ordering marines to Peking for Legation guards. We should have war vessel Tientsin instructed to send marines at my order if necessary.

(Signed) Conger.

Peking, October 7th, 1898.

Hay,

Washington.

Chinese government increased the militia here insuring present protection. General situation Chinese Empire growing serious. British Minister, Russian Minister, German Minister today placed large guards in Legations, other Ministers have ordered them. I strongly urge presence of small guard at Tientsin at least before navigation closes. Prestige and prudence require it. May I expect them?

(Signed) Conger.

reach Tientsin from Manilla or Hongkong, before the bay of Pechili freezes, if telegraphic orders are at once given on receipt of this despatch.

I have not yet communicated with Admiral Dewey, but shall immediately send him the substance of this despatch.

I enclose herewith copy of note received from the Foreign Office, setting forth the precautions taken by the Chinese government to preserve order here.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

Enclosure:

The Tsungli Yamen to Mr. Conger, October 4th, 1898.

Enclosure No. 4 in Despatch No. 61.

The Tsungli Yamen to Mr. Conger.

No. 17. Peking, October 4th, 1898.

Your Excellency:-

The Prince and Ministers have the hono to inform Your Excellency that on the 4th instant the Grand Council Memorialized the Throne that in the sever al localities of the Five Districts of Peking there are both good and bad men, and the other day some foreigners were on their way from the Railway Station and were set upon by a mob. The Gendarmerie have been commanded and have already appointed over one hundred soldiers to guard the road from the Station to the Yung Ting gate and up to the T'ien bridge; and to keep a sharp lookout to arrest offenders and preserve the peace. All the Police stations within and without the city are commanded to protect foreigners who may be passing and they shall not be delayed.

On the same day the Censors were likewise ordered by the Imperial decree to guard the road from the station, etc.(same as above).

This Yamen has therefore ordered the Gendarmerie and Censors to obey the Imperial mandate, and take the necessary measures.

In addition, as in duty bound, we forward the above copy of the decree for Your Excellency's information.

Enclosure No. 1 in Despatch No. 61.

The Tsungli Yamen to Mr. Conger.

No. 17. Peking, October 4th, 1898.

Your Excellency:-

The Prince and Ministers have the honor to inform Your Excellency that on the 4th instant the Grand Council Memorialized the Throne that in the several localities of the Five Districts of Peking there are both good and bad men, and the other day some foreigners were on their way from the Railway Station and were set upon by a mob. The Gendarmerie have been commanded and have already appointed over one hundred soldiers to guard the road from the Station to the Yung Ting gate and up to the T'ien bridge; and to keep a sharp lookout to arrest offenders and preserve the peace. All the Police stations within and without the city are commanded to protect foreigners who may be passing and they shall not be delayed.

On the same day the Censors were likewise ordered by the Imperial decree to guard the road from the station, etc.(same as above).

This Yamen has therefore ordered the Gendarmerie and Censors to obey the Imperial mandate, and take the necessary measures.

In addition, as in duty bound, we forward the above copy of the decree for Your Excellency's information.

No. 62

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October 7th, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Confirming Department's telegram of the 3rd instant.

No. 64

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October 7th, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to confirm your telegram of the 3rd instant, a copy of which is appended on the overleaf,

and to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

TELEGRAM RECEIVED.

(Cipher)

Washington, October 3rd, 1898.

Conger,

Minister,

Peking.

Your course is approved. Act vigorously for the protection of Americans. Demand redress as well as prevention.

(Signed) Hay.

No. 282.

Mr. Smith

DIPLOMATIC,
OCT 11 1898
BUREAU.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

Copy to President Oct. 9.

Copy to Secretary Oct 9. 1898

Ansd. by tel Oct 10. Confirm with reply

From United Stat4es Legation,

Peking, China, October 9, 1898.

(Received 10.22 a.m.)

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D.
9 OCT 1898
DEPT. OF STATE

Contd Oct. 12.

H A Y,

Washington.

3rd. ASST. SECRETARY
OCT 9 1898

Chinese Government increased the militia here insuring present protection. General situation Chinese Empire growing serious. British Minister, Russian Minister, German Minister, to-day placed large guards in legations. Other Ministers have ordered them. I strongly urge presence of marine guard at Tien-Tsin at least before navigation closes. Prestige and prudence require it. May I expect them.

C O N G E R.

1

tec-

Mr. Smith:- Mr. Adee (thro' T.T.K.) says this has been attended to by the Secy. So I suppose there is nothing to be done, but confirm to Mr. Conger.
T.J.B. 10/10/98.-

Deciphered by

, 189 , M.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.

DIPLOMATIC, OCT 11 1898 DEPT. OF STATE BUREAU OCT 11, 9.10 AM 1898 CHF. CLKS. OFFICE

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY. Telegraphed, granting Bainbridge leave. Oct 11. Confirm- OCT 11 1898

Cable

TELEGRAM RECEIVED. #1 - 16 Govt.

From Peking

Oct. 11th, 1898

Received 12:10 A.M.

Sent Oct. 12.

Washington,

Unexpected business complications require Bainbridge's* presence home immediately, requests leave. I approve.

Conger.

* Wm. C. Bainbridge, 2nd Secy of Legation.

C. of Wa

No. 69

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
Copy to Secy Porter for the
President's information -
Ack. & file
DEC 20 1898

DIPLOMATIC,
DEC 20 1898
BUREAU.

BUREAU
RECD.
19 DEC 1898
DEPT. OF STATE

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October 12th, 1898.

Copy
Asked and
To President's
Secretary
Dec 22/98

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Confirming Department's telegram of the 10th instant. Banishment of Chang-yen-huan.

No. 43

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October 12th, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to confirm, on the overleaf, the Deprtment's telegram of the 10th instant, received here the 11th.

Chang-yen-huan, the subject of your telegram, was sentenced to banishment to north-western China, and had left here before the receipt of the instruction. If, however, an occasion arises, where I have an opportunity to carry out the wishes of the President, I will do so.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

TELEGRAM RECEIVED.

(Cipher.)

Washington, October 8th, 1898.

Conger,

Peking.

In response to request of many friends of Chang-hin-huan, and in agreeable remembrance of his mission in the United States, the President would be glad if you would embrace any opportunity that presents itself of discreetly using your influence, unofficially, for mitigation of rigor of his sentence.

(Signed.) Hay.

3

No. 64

DIPLOMATIC
DEC 15 1898
BUREAU.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Mr Conger can print in Adv. Sheets.
Print also in For Rels. 1898.
Act accordingly
DEC 5 1898

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October 12th, 1898.

Rec'd Dec. 22/98

PRINTED IN ADVANCE SHEETS NO. 227

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

To Congress Feb. 16

COPIED FOR CONGRESS.

COPIED FOR FOREIGN RELATIONS.

Subject: Translation of a decree of the Empress Dowager published in the Peking Gazette of October 6th, 1898, in regard to the treatment of foreigners, especially missionaries, in China.

No. 64

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October 12th, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

I have the honor to enclose a translation of a decree which appeared in the Peking Gazette of the 6th instant, in regard to the treatment of foreigners, especially missionaries, living in China.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

Enclosure:

Translation as above.

Enclosure in Despatch No. 64

Translation of a decree of the Empress Dowager which appeared in the Peking Gazette of October 6th, 1898.

From the opening of Ports to foreign trade to the present time, Foreigners and Chinese have been as one family, with undivided interests, and since missionaries from foreign countries are living in the interior, We have decreed, not three or four times, but many times, that the local officials must protect them; that the gentry and people of all the provinces must sympathize with our desire for mutual benevolence; that they must treat them thuthfully and honestly, without dislike or suspicion, with the hope of lasting peaceful relations.

Recently there have been disturbances in the Provinces which it has been impossible to avoid. There have been several cases of riot in Szechuan which have not been settled. The stupid and ignorant people who circulate rumors and stir up strife, proceeding from light to grave differences, are most truly to be detested. On the other hand, the officials, who have not been able at convenient seasons to properly instruct the people and prevent disturbances, cannot be excused from censure.

We now especially decree again that all High Provincial officials

Enclosure in Despatch No. 64

Translation of a decree of the Empress Dowager which appears in the Peking Gazette of October 6th,1898.

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We now especially decree again that all High Provincial officials

No. 65

officials, wherever there are churches, shall distinctly instruct the local officials to most respectfully obey Our several decrees; to truly recognige and protect the foreign missionaries as they go to and fro'; and to treat them with all courtesy.

If lawsuits arise between Chinese and native christians, they must be conducted with justice and speedily concluded. Moreover, they must command and instruct the gentry and people to fulfill their duties, that there may be no quarrels or disagreements.

Wherever there are foreigners travelling from place to place, they must surely be protected and the extreme limit of our hospitality extended.

After the issue of this decree, if there is any lack of preparation and disturbances should arise, the officials of that locality will be severely dealt with; whether they be Viceroys or Governors, or others, they shall ~~alike~~ be punished, and it will not avail to say "We have not informed you ".

~~Respectfully received.~~

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After the issue of this decree if there is any lack of preparation and disturbances should arise, the officials of that locality will be severely dealt with; whether they be Viceroys or Governors, or others, they shall alike be punished, and it will not avail to say "We have not informed you".

Respectfully received.

Noted in Commercial Relations, 1898

No. 65

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October 12th, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Suggestions of the United States Consul at Chefoo for the development of American trade in China.

No. 65

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October 12th, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

I have the honor to enclose, for the information of the Department, a copy of a despatch from the United States Consul at Chefoo, dated the 3rd of October, 1898, in which he makes certain suggestions for the further development of American trade in China.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

Enclosure:

As noted above.

Enclosure No. 1 in Despatch No 66

No. III.
Legation.

UNITED STATES CONSULATE.

Chefoo, October 3rd, 1898.

Honorable E.H.Conger,

E.E.& M.P.

Peking.

Sir:-

In compliance with the request in your despatch No. 81 of August 28th, 1898, I have the honor to enclose copy of Declared Exports at this Consulate for quarter ended September 30th.

The following named ships arrived with oil during the first 6 months.

June 8 Amer. Ship Challenger oil val. $42000 N.York
Augt 8 " Bark Eric J Ray " " 42000 Shai.
Feb. 3 British " Collingrove " " 24,094.90 N.Y.

During the calender year the imports of American Flour were valued at HK. Tls. 9,767. while for the first quarter 1898 they were valued at Hk Tls 13,633, and for second quarter they were valued at Hk Tls46,796 or Hk Tls 60,429 for the firsyt six months of this year, a most remarkableincrease ~~during~~ due no doubt to the movements at Port Arthur, Weihaiwei and Tsingtan

The following suggestions are respectfully made, believing them to be beneficial to our interests:

I . Urge the speedy commencement of work on the Nicaragua Canal under U.S. Control.

2. Appointment of Consuls at Newchwang, Tsingtan(German territory) Kyaochow (Chinese territory) Swatow, Ning po and Hangchow.

3. Reassert our exclusive control over the mails.

Enclosure No. — in Despatch No. 61—

No. III.
Legation.

UNITED STATES CONSULATE.

Chefoo, October 3rd, 1898.

Honorable E.H.Conger,

E.E.& M.P.

Peking.

Sir:-

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During the calendar year the imports of American flour were valued at HK. Tls. 8,787. while for the first quarter 1898 they were valued at HK Tls 13,833, and for second quarter they were valued at HK Tls46,786 or HK Tls 60,429 for the first six months of this year, a most remarkable increase due no doubt to the movements at Port Arthur, Weihaiwei and Talienwan

The following suggestions are respectfully made, believing them to be beneficial to our interests:

1. Urge the speedy commencement of work on the Nicaragua Canal under U.S. Control.

2. Appointment of Consuls at Newchwang, Talienwan(German territory) Kyochow (Chinese territory) Swatow, Ningpo and Hangchow.

3. Reassert our exclusive control over the mails.

4. Depfecate the admission of Foreigners into membership of the American Asiatic Association, as they learn tradi secrets, and will nullify its usefulness.

5. Importance of placing American enterprises in the hands of Americans. All our interests in China are repr sented by foreign firms, which is a great hindrance to the future expansion of our commerce.

Chefoo bought over $3,000,000 (gold) of American goods last year not a dollar's worth sold by Americans here.

6. That the Foreign Customs be urged to act fairly in their published Reports by crediting to the United States all imports from the United States including transhipments made at Hongkong. Same with exports as merchants now generally state in their applications for duty Memo the destination. that that shipment be credited to the country it is intended for as stated on the application no matter if it is via another Port. Hongkong or Japan.

For instance a merchant states in his application Strawbraid for export to New York via Hongkong. The Customscredits the shipment to Hongkong and nnwt as it should to the United StatesTheythey now increase apparently the importance of British Ports at our expense.

7. The importance of a nwewspaper controlled by Americans

8That Museums be established at Canton Shanghai Hankow and Tientsin for the display of American Merchandise.

9. That an American Bank be established.

IO. That the amalgamation of U.S Mail lines with foreig lines be discouraged and no mail contracts be given to lines that share profits with foreign lines which later

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10. That the amalgamation of U.S Mail lines with foreig lines be discouraged and no mail contracts be given to lines that share profits with foreign lines which later

on will crowd the Americans out entirely.

II Consular Invoice fees on merchandise arriving in the U.S. on American ships be refunded.

I2. Consuls be liberally supplied with trade journals.

I3. That Government ships trade with Americans in China.

That That Americans be more frequently appointed in the C Customs Service of China, until they bring up the quota equitably with our interests, and that those now in the service be stationed in better ports, in other words treat Americans in the service as the equal and not the inferior of other nationalities.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) John Fowler.

Consul.

Enclosure

Copy " Digest Invoice Book".

on will crowd the Americans out entirely.

11 Consular Invoice fees on merchandise arriving in the U.S. on American ships be refunded.

12. Consuls be liberally supplied with trade journals.

13. That Government ships trade with Americans in China.

14. That Americans be more frequently appointed in the Customs Service, until they bring up the quota equitably with our interests, and that those now in the service be stationed in better ports, in other words treat Americans in the service as the equal not the inferior of other nationalities.

I have ~~the~~ honor to be

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) John Powler.

Consul

Enclosure

Copy " Digest Invoice Book".

No. 66

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October 12th, 1898.

Rec'd Dec 29

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: The Department's telegram of the 10th instnt confirmed. United States vessels ordered from Manilla to Taku.

No. 46

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October 12th, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

I have the honor to confirm, on the overleaf, the Department's telegram of the 10th, received here the 11th instant.

There is no record in this Legation of any agreed upon cipher for use with spelling code, but in deciphering this telegram, found the first number of the message was the key.

The word following the word "Boston" I was not able to make out, probably due to some error in transmission.

Your instructions as to ordering guards to Peking only in case of necessity will be strictly adhered to.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

TELEGRAM RECEIVED.

(Cipher).

Washington, October 10th, 1899

Conger,

Peking.

Yours of 9th received. Boston and ..... with marine guards left Manila for Taku October 4th, should arrive October 14th. Order guards to Peking only in case of necessity.

(Signed.) Hay.

No. 67

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October 12th, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: The Legation's telegram of the 10th and the Department's reply of the 11th confirmed. Mr. Bainbridge's leave of absence.

No. 67

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October 12th, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to confirm, on the overleaf, my telegram of the 10th instant and your reply thereto received today.

Mr. Bainbridge's presence was necessary at home on account of important business complications which he has fully explained to me.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

TELEGRAM SENT.

Peking, October 10th, 1898.

Hay,

Wasington.

Unexpected business complications require Bainbridge's presence home immediately. Requests home leave, I approve.

(Signed) Conger.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED.

Wasington, October 11th, 1898.

Conger,

Peking.

Bainbridge granted leave.

(Signed) Hay.

No. 68

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October 12th, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Instruction No. 19, August 16th, 1898, received.

The United States Consuls in China have been instructed to use the cipher code in their confidential telegraphic communications with this Legation.

No. 68

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October 12th, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D .C .

Sir:-

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your instruction No.19, August 16th, 1898, and the cipher code which accompanied it.

The United States Consuls in China have been instructed to use it in their confidential telegraphic communications to this Legation.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

No. 64

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October 12th, 1898.

Rec'd Dec. 22/98

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Foreign contracts for the loan of money, building railways and working mines in China.

(Translation of note from Foreign Office, dated October 6th, 1898.)

No. 89

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October 12th, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

For the information of the Department,-I have the honor to enclose a translation of a note from the Foreign Office, dated October 6th, 1898, in regard to foreign contracts for the loan of money, building railways, and working mines in China; also a copy of my reply thereto.

I have transmitted a copy of the translation to all of our Consuls in China.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

Enclosures:

1. Tsungli Yamen to Mr. Conger, October 6th, 1898.

2. Mr. Conger to the Tsungli Yamen, October 16th, 1898.

Enclosure No. 4 in Despatch No. 69

Note from Tsungli Yamen dated October 6th, 1898.

Translation of ~~a Decree which appeared in the Pe-king Gazette of~~ October 6th, 1898.

The Prince and Ministers have the honor to communicate to your Excellency that it appears from the records that in the 17th year of Kuanghsu, 10th moon and 24th day, the Board of Revenue, conjointly with the Yamen memorialized that hereafter Chinese officials, great or small, if they desired to borrow money from foreign merchants, said merchants must first petition their country's Minister in Peking to clearly state the matter to the Foreign Office and when the case is decided then they can make the loan; but unless a favorable decision is recorded, should the loan be privately made, and then anything happen, whether in ~~such~~ case the seal has been affixed or not the Government will not be responsible for the repayment. In the same year, 11th Moon, 4th day, it was communicated to the Ministers of all countries to make note of the same.

Again on the 6th Moon, 24th day of this year (11th Aug. 1898.) the Ministers having charge of the Mining and Railway interests memorialized that in obedience to the Imperial Decree, a Railway and Mining Bureau be established in Peking. All contracts whether official or private previous to the Imperial Decree are not settled binding. To this the Emperor has consented.

Now

Enclosure No. 4 in Despatch No. 69

Translation of ~~a Decree which appears in the Pe~~ Imperial Decree
~~king Gazette of~~ October 6th, 1898.

The Princes and Ministers have the honor to communicate to your Excellency that it appears from the records that in the 17th year of Kuangsu, 10th moon and 24th day, the Board of Revenue, conjointly with the Yamen memorialized that hereafter Chinese officials, great or small, if they desired to borrow money from foreign merchants, said merchants must first petition their country's Minister in Peking to clearly state the matter to the Foreign Office and when the case is decided then they can make the loan; but unless a favorable decision is recorded, should the loan be privately made, and then anything happen, whether in such case the seal has been affixed or not the Government will not be responsible for the repayment. In the same year, 11th Moon, 4th day, it was communicated to the Ministers of all countries to make note of the same.

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Now

Now on the 13th September, 1898, the Grand Council notified the Mayor of Peking, Hu Che-fen, to notify all the provinces opening mines and railways and borrowing foreign capital that they must first request the Tsung-li Yamen to communicate with each Foreign Minister, and they in turn, will notify the foreign merchants that if they have no Government authority all their contracts are null and void. Let the Foreign Office deliberate upon this and return answer. Respectfully received.

This Yamen, having investigated in regard to all mines in China not yet opened, and all railways and branch railways, not yet constructed, find that at the beginning if consent is given to borrow funds from al different nations both foreigners and natives will ben efitted, provided the business is bona fide and the loan reliable. It is feared untrustworthy Chinese mer chants may make a pretext of this and falsely project roads and mines and secretly make contracts with fore eign merchants for the sake of the profit, and the foreign merchants be taken in by their deception and the capital be wasted and nothing accomplished. The foregoing is certainly not Our Government's original idea in opening mines and railways as a source of rev-enue to both Chinese and foreign merchants.

Now we have prepared this clear statement so it may be understood that in opening mines, railways &c. in order to borrow foreign capital, authority must be

secured

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This Yamen, having investigated in regard to all mines in China not yet opened, and all railways and branch railways, not yet constructed, find that at the beginning if consent is given to borrow funds from all different nations both foreigners and natives will be entitled, provided the business is bona fide and the loan reliable. It is feared untrustworthy Chinese merchants may make a pretext of this and falsely project roads and mines and secretly make contracts with foreign merchants for the sake of the profit, and the foreign merchants be taken in by their deception and the capital be wasted and nothing accomplished. The foregoing is certainly not Our Government's original idea in opening mines and railways as a source of revenue to both Chinese and foreign merchants.

Now we have prepared this clear statement so it may be understood that in opening mines, railways &c. in order to borrow foreign capital, authority must be

secured

secured from the Railway andmining Bureau, and then th work can proceed. But without permission of the Railway and Mining Bureau, if secret contracts are made with foreign merchants no matter whether for railways or mineing operations, nor what the amount of the capital, it will be only waste paper, in order that an end may be put to false dealing, and that all may be faithful and upright.

As in duty bound we communicate this despatch prepared for Your Excellency, and that Your Excellency ma may in turn convey it to your honorable countrymen for their guidance.

secured from the Railway and Mining Bureau, and then the work can proceed. But without permission of the Railway and Mining Bureau, if secret contracts are made with foreign merchants no matter whether for railways or mining operations, nor what the amount of the capital, it will be only waste paper, and in order that an end may be put to false dealing, and that all may be faithful and upright.

As in duty bound we communicate this despatch prepared for Your Excellency, and that Your Excellency may in turn convey it to your honorable countrymen for their guidance.

Enclosure No. 2 in Despatch No. 69

F.O.No. 28.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October 16th, 1898.

The Undersigned Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America, has the honor to acknowledge receipt of the note of Oct. 6th, 1898, in which Your Highness and Your Excellencie of the Tsungli Yamen communicated certain requirements necessary to be observed in the negotiating of all for eign loans, and among other things stated that "all not settled contracts, whether official or private previous to the Imperial Decree are not binding."

It is not quite clear to the Undersigned exactly what is intended by "not settled contracts"; but he ventures to express the belief that it will in no case be given a construction which can in any way invalidate or destroy rights already accrued by heretofore legitimate negotiations.

The Undersigned avails himself of the occasion to assure Your Highness and Your Excellencies of his highest consideration.

(Signed) E.H.Conger.

To His Highness, Prince Ching,

and Their Excellencies of the Tsungli Yamen,

etc., etc., etc.

No. 70

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October 12th, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Appointment of Yuan Ch'ang as a member of the Tsungli Yamen.

No. 70

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October 12th, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

I have the honor to report the promotion of His Excellency, Yuan Ch'ang to the third rank, and his appointment as a member of the Tsungli Yamen.

He was at one time an Under Secretary of the Tsungli Yamen, and afterwards promoted to be the Taotai at Wuhu.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E H Conger

No. 72

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Peking, China, October 12th, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to report the promotion of His Excellency, Yuan Ch'ang to the third rank, and his appointment as a member of the Tsungli Yamen.

He was at one time an Under Secretary of the Tsungli Yamen, and afterwards promoted to be the Taotai at Wuhu.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

No. 71

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October 14th, 1898.

Ackd Dec 21/98

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Translation of a decree of Empress Dowager which appeared in the Peking Gazette, October 9th, 1898. The progress of the reform movement in China is checked.

No. 77

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Peking, China, October 14th, 1908.

Mr. Squier to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Translation of a decree of Empress Dowager relative

approved in the Peking Gazette, October 9th, 1908.

the interest of the reform movement in China is

checked.

No. 77

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October 14th, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

I have the honor to enclose a most remarkable decree issued by the Empress Dowager on the 9th instant.

It directs that guards shall be placed over the several Legations; and since that date a few soldiers with whips in their hands may be seen standing about or lounging on rugs in front of each Legation.

It proscribes newspaper criticism and orders the immediate arrest and punishment of all editors offending.

It eliminates the use of modern sciences in civil service examinations and emphatically orders that hereafter all civil service examinations shall be on the old basis, using the "Four Books" (the classics); testing scholarship by a knowledge of odes and idyls instead of practical

subjects

subjects. This is the most conclusive proof yet given by the Empress Dowager of her determination to turn the clock backwards,and it will certainly not take long for the pendulum of progress to swing back to the point from which the Emperor so recently started it.

Since October 6th all decrees have been issued in the name of the Empress Dowager alone,with no sort of public intimation as to what has become of His Imperial Majesty.

However,I am creditably informed by those having reasonable opportunity to know,the Emperor is still alive, though in close confinement within the palace.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

Enclosure:

Translation of a decree which appeared in the Peking Gazette,October 9th,1898.

Enclosure No. in Despatch No. 71

Translation of a Decree which appeared in the Peking Gazette on October 9th, 1898.

The Merciful, Auspicious, Upright, Protected, Peaceful Comfortable, Illustrious, Gratified, Dignified, Sincere, Long-lived , Reverent, Imperial, Sage, Lofty, Glorious Empress Dowager puts forth the decree of an Empress.

Let the Yamen of the General Commandant of the Gendarmerie and other Yamens of that class expressly appoint trusty officers to lead useful soldiers, night and day to keep honest watch and guard over the legations and their neighborhoods, of every country, and to preserve order. Should rowdies and roughs make trouble, immediately on the spot make arrest and administer the right penalty. Don't say you had other business and were unable to attend.

Vicious words bring insurrection to the government and the worst evil to the people. I have already decreed that newspapers and the official magazines should ceas being published. But recently I hear that in Tientsin, Shanghai and Hankow numerous as the trees in a forest newspaper offices with reckless presumptious words are spreading false reports, leading the people astray. This must be stopped.

Let every Governor general and Provincial Governor whose duty it is, command their subordinates to search out and close them up. The editors are doubtless the dregs of the literary class, not knowing shame. Command the local authorities strictly to search out

and

Enclosure No. 1 in Despatch No. 71

Translation of a Decree which appeared in the Peking Gazette on October 9th, 1898.

The Merciful, Auspicious, Upright, Protected, Peaceful Comfortably, Illustrious, Exalted, Dignified, Sincere, Long-lived, Reverent, Imperial, Sage, Lofty, Glorious Empress Dowager puts forth the decree of an Empress.

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and

arrest them and administer heavy penalties, that there may be a rest from corrupting words and that the people may become quiet.

The Government has used the Four Books(the classic to find its scholars, following the ancient commentators, showing forth the nuggets concealed there by the sages. During the past two hundred years many good men have been secured. In recent years the literary customs have daily become worse and worse. In every province at the examinations the scholars are guilty of literary theft, the plagiarists after purloining exactly the same writings. This is not the fault of the modern literary style. The fault is that the officials who conduct the examinations do not recognize the thefts; they are not able to criticize.

Those have not thought to the root of the question who say that the subjects studied in preparation for the civil service examination are of no use in the civil service; they would lay all the blame on to the law regulating the examinations. They do not know that in showing forth talent the examinations are to the scholars but steps for promotion. If men have special talent, altough we follow the customs of the T'ang and Sungnasties testing scholarship by requiring odesn and idyls, it is not impossible to find these men out.

If a man talks ever so finely, but has a bad heart the use of modern science in civil service examination would be amply sufficient to stir up clamorous and wrangling pride.

Let it be specially and clearly proclaimed that hereafter all civil service examinations will be on th

arrest them and administer heavy penalties, that there may be a feat from corrupting words and that the people may become quiet.

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If a man talks ever so finely, but has a bad heart the use of modern science in civil service examination would simply suffice to stir up clamorous and swaggering pride. Every class, not meeting some, [illegible]

Let it be specially and clearly proclaimed that hereafter all civil service examinations will be on the

the old basis using the Four Books.

That new method of examination would have produced breeds of evils; let it be stopped at once.

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men have been secured. In recent years the literary
customs have daily become worse and worse. In every
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same writings. This is not the fault of the modern life
every style. The fault is that the officials do not
recognize the theft; they are not able to criticize.

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who say that the subjects studied in preparation for
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regulating the examinations. They do not know that in
amining facts lies the examinations are to this scholar
are but steps for promotion. If men have special tal-
ent, although we follow the customs of the Times and
Examination Regular scholarship by requiring eight
idyls, it is not impossible to find these men out.

It is not right to discard the use of modern science in civil service examination
would be sufficient to get by clever men
smuggling papers.

Let it be specially and clearly proclaimed that
hereafter all civil service examinations will be on

No. 72

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October 17th, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Exequatur granted Mr. Arthur H. White, Deputy Consul General of the United States at Shanghai.

(Instructions No. 13, July 27th, 1898.)

No. 72

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October 17th, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

I have the honor to report that in accordance with the Department's instructions, No.13, of July 27th, 1898, Exequatur was requested of the Chinese government for Arthur H.White, as Deputy Consul General of the United States at Shanghai, and that I am today notified that it has been granted.

Mr.White has also been so informed and his certificate sent him through the Consul General.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

No. 73

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October 18th, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Appointment of Li Sheng-to as Minister to Japan, in the place of Huang Tsun-hsien, who is reported to have resigned.

No. 73

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October 18th, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

I have the honor to report that on the 6th instant Mr. Li Sheng-to, Taotai and Supervising Censor of the Provincial Circuit of Kiang-nan, was promoted to third rank, and appointed Minister to Japan in place of Huang Tsun-hsien, recently appointed and alleged to have resigned because of ill health.

The fact is, however, that Huang Tsun-hsien has been arrested by Imperial Decree, and at last official accounts, was a prisoner at Shanghai.

It is currently reported here that he has been executed; but I am unable to verify the report.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

DIPLOMATIC,
DEC 20 1898
BUREAU.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
Ack & file.
[See no. 793 and
DEC 20 1898

No. 74

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF ~~AMERICA~~.

Peking, China, October 19th, 1898.

Ack Dec 22 98

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D.
19 DEC 1898
DEPT. OF STATE

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: State of the Emperor's health. He is examined by the physician attached to the French Legation.

No. 74

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October 19th, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

In view of the uncertainty that has been telegraphed to the world as to the life of the Emperor of China, and the consequent political and commercial uneasiness,-I am pleased to report that on yesterday at the request of the Tsungli Yamen, Doctor Detheve of the French Legation, accompanied by Prince Ching and an Interpreter, visited the Emperor in his palace, and in the presence of the Empress Dowager made a thorough medical examination of him.

He found the Emperor comfortably occupying his usual palace, and at least at the moment, not an apparently closely confined or strictly guarded prisoner.

Says he is delicate and anaemic, not seriously ill; but needs recuperation and toning up.

Without attempting to forecast, I venture to express the

the opinion that this indicates a somewhat more hopeful situation and will tend to postpone the more serious danger which threatened to break out whenever it should be definitely known that either the Emperor or the Empress Dowager was dead.

Ordinarily it would be impossible for such a missmatched team to pull together;but in this instance the Empress Dowager is so much the stronger,that she will do all the work,and the fiction of a pair of regents will only be preserved to appease the Emperor's friends in various parts of the Empire.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

No. 76

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October 21st, 1898.

Ackd and
To Navy Dept
Dec. 22/98 C.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Arrival of the Cruiser Boston, Gunboat Petrel and Collier Nero at Taku. Result of consultation with Captain Wildes.

No. 75

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October 21st, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

I have the honor to report the arrival at Taku, on the 19th instant, of the Cruiser Boston, the Gunboat Petrel and the Collier Nero.

On yesterday Captain Wildes came to Peking with instructions from Admiral Dewey to furnish to the Legation, either as a temporary or permanent guard, whatever number of marines I deemed necessary.

As already reported, the medical examination of the Emperor and the public knowledge of his life and safety, have done much toward allaying the fear of future trouble or disturbance. This fact in connection with the great concentration of their best soldiers in the vivinity of this capital, makes it reasonably certain that, if danger shall come to foreigners here, it will be the result of uprisings

at

at distant interior points,and will take considerable time to reach Peking. I do not therefore consider the present necessity for a guard sufficient to order marines here at this time. Besides our compound is so small and already so crowded,that the addition to our number of even a small guard would be very inconvenient and uncomfortable.

I suggested to Captain Wildes that the Petrel might be left at Tangku for the winter,so that in case of unexpected trouble,a guard could be quickly brought here. But he thinks the Petrel could not cross the bar at the mouth of river,and that if she could,the Admiral would not be willing to fasten a vessel up in the ice there,where it could not be used if needed.

However,upon the assurance of Captain Wildes that he will remain in the vicinity of Taku as long as fredom from ice will permit,I have agreed with him,that if before that time,conditions should change sufficiently for the worse to justify the precautions,I will telegraph him to send up the guards,and I will make preparations to take care of them;otherwise he may take them with him again to the south.

I have the honor to be,Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

No. 76

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY, Ack & file. DEC 20 1898

DIPLOMATIC, DEC 20 1898 BUREAU.

INDEX BUREAU REC'D. DEC 1898 DEPT OF STATE

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October 22nd, 1898.

Ack Dec 22/98

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Clipping from the North China Daily News of October 15th, 1898, containing an alleged interview with Kang Yu-Wei, the reform leader.

No. [redacted]

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October 22nd, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

As throwing some additional light upon recent happenings here,-I have the honor to enclose clipping from the North China Daily News, containing a reputed interview with Kang Yu-Wei, the reform leader, friend and adviser of the Emperor, whose escape to Hongkong I have heretofore reported.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

Enclosure:

As stated above.

Enclosure in Despatch No. 76

Clipping from the North China Daily News of October 15th, 1898

THE CRISIS IN CHINA.

(Reprinted from the China Mail.)

INTERVIEW WITH KANG YU-WEI.

THE RISE AND FALL OF THE REFORM PARTY.

THE REAL RULER OF CHINA.

KANG'S FLIGHT.

HIS GRATITUDE TO THE ENGLISH PEOPLE.

Hongkong, 7th October.

Last night, a representative of the *China Mail* waited upon Kang Yu-wei, the refugee leader of the Chinese Reform Party, and interviewed him upon the situation in China and the circumstances that led up to his flight from Peking.

Kang is an intelligent-looking Chinese of medium height, but not of unusually striking appearance. He talked freely enough, telling his interviewer some things that it has been considered wise to suppress in view of the great interests involved in the solution of the China question. For a native who does not speak any western language, Kang has imbibed a wonderful amount of ideas, and the impression he left on his interviewer was that he has a firmer grasp of the situation than the majority of his compatriots. It may be considered that some of the views are those of a visionary, but there can be no doubt of his earnestness; and it must be borne in mind that there never yet was a reformer in any country whose views were not at first believed to be outside the range of practical politics. One thing was made abundantly clear—that neither Sir Claude Macdonald nor any other member of the British Legation assisted Kang Yu-wei in his flight from the capital, and that the first intimation to Kang himself that he was being protected by the British flag was when the Consul at Shanghai recognised him and transferred him from the *Chungking* to H.M.S. *Esk*.

The gentleman, a well-known compradore, who acted as interpreter, said that before proceeding with the interview Kang wished to thank the British people for the kind protection they had afforded him and for the interest the English people were taking in the advancement of the political and social status of China and the emancipation of the Emperor. He also wished to explain that the reason why he had not consented to an interview before was that he was very much distressed upon learning that his brother had been decapitated and that the Emperor was reported to be murdered. The excitement and anxiety of the past fortnight had unnerved him, and he was disinclined to see anyone or to discuss the events which had led up to his flight from Peking.

After this preliminary, statement, Kang Yu-wei proceeded with his story.

"You all know," he said, "that the Empress-Dowager is not educated, that she is very conservative, that she has been very reluctant to give the Emperor any real power in managing the affairs of the Empire. In the year 1887 it was decided to set aside Tls. 30,000,000 for the creation of a Navy. After the battleships *Tingyuen*, *Weiyuen*, *Chihyuen*, *Chênyuen* and *Kingyuen* had been ordered, and after providing for their payment, the Empress-Dowager appropriated the balance of the money for the repair of the Eho Park gardens. Later on, when it was decided to set aside or raise Tls. 30,000,000 for the construction of railways, she misappropriated a large portion of the money. The first intention had been to construct the railway to Moukden, but it was never carried further than Shanhaikuan, the remainder of the money being used for the decoration of the Imperial Gardens. Every sensible man knows that railways and a navy are essential for the well-being of a country. But in spite of the advice of one or two advisers the Empress-Dowager refused to carry on the schemes and thought only of her personal gratification. She has been steadily opposed to the introduction of Western civilisation. She has never seen many outside people—only a few eunuchs in the Palace and a few Ministers of State who have access to her."

"Through whom does she conduct the affairs of State?"

THE SHAM EUNUCH.

"Before the Japanese war Li Hung-chang was the man she had most confidence in. After the war Li Hung-chang was discarded and she seemed to repose most confidence in Prince Kung and Jung Lu As a rule, however, she retains absolute control in her own hands. There is a sham eunuch in the Palace who has practically more power than any of the Ministers. Li Luen-yên is the sham eunuch's name. He is a native of Chihli. Nothing could be done without first bribing him. All the Viceroys have got their official positions through bribing this man, who is immensely wealthy. Li Hung-chang is not to be compared with him. Before she handed over the reins of government to the Emperor, a year or two ago, the Empress-Dowager used to see many Ministers, but after that she has only seen eunuchs and officials belonging to the inner department. I have seen her myself. She is of medium height and commanding presence, rather imperious in manner. She has a dark, sallow complexion, long almond eyes, high nose, is fairly intelligent looking and has expressive eyes."

THE RISE OF THE REFORM PARTY.

In answer to a query, "Who inspired the new policy at Peking?"

Kang replied—"About two years ago, two officials, Chang Lin and Wang Mingluan, sent a memorial to the Emperor advising him to the take power into his own hands, stating that the Empress-Dowager was only the concubine of his uncle, Emperor Hsien Fêng; therefore according to Chinese law she could not be recognised as the proper Empress-Dowager. The result of this memorial was that the two officials were dismissed for ever. They were Vice-Presidents of Boards, one being a Manchu and the other a Soochow man. The Emperor recognises that the Empress-Dowager is not his real mother. Since the Emperor began to display an interest in affairs of State the Empress-Dowager has been scheming his deposition. She used to play cards with him, and gave him intoxicating drinks in order to prevent him from attending to State affairs. For the greater part of the last two years the Emperor has been practically the figure-head against his own wishes. After the occupation of Kiaochou by the Germans, the Emperor was very furious, and said to the Empress-Dowager: 'Unless I have the power I will not take my seat as Emperor; I will abdicate.' The result was that the Empress-Dowager gave in to him to a certain extent, telling him that he could do as he liked, but although she said this with her mouth her heart was different."

"How do you know this?" asked the interviewer. "Did you hear it yourself?"

Kang's reply was: "No, I heard it from other officials."

"Who recommended you to the notice of the Emperor?"

[illegible] Evening [illegible] Fest. [illegible] and Martin; [illegible] and Nunc Dimittis, in B flat, [illegible] Anthem, "I will magnify [illegible]" Hymns [illegible] and 90.

[illegible] will be held in the Church [illegible] Our Saviour, Broadway, at 11 a.m. and [illegible]. The Rev. G. F. Mo[illegible] [illegible] in the morning. The Holy [illegible] will be administered at the [illegible] day service. The [illegible] will call [illegible] all vessels in the stream and at [illegible] to convey those wishing [illegible] to and fro. The Seamen's Bible [illegible] will be held at 27 Kiangse Road at [illegible]

[illegible] John's College Chapel, Jessfield [illegible] Prayer will be said [illegible] morrow at 6 p.m. Sermon by the [illegible]

[illegible] Services will be held in the Union [illegible] to-morrow at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. [illegible] Rev. John Hedley will preach in the [illegible] and the Rt. Rev. Bishop Wilson [illegible] the evening.

The services in connection with the [illegible] Free Christian Church, to be [illegible] in the Masonic Hall to-morrow, will [illegible] conducted at 11 a.m. and at 6 p.m. [illegible] the Rev. G. C. Needham. The subject [illegible] the morning will be "Will Christ come [illegible]?" and in the evening "How to find [illegible] satisfaction."

To-morrow evening's evangelistic meeting at the Seamen's Mission, Tienlung [illegible] near Broadway, will commence at 5 o'clock.

[illegible] evangelistic meeting will be held [illegible] the China Inland Mission Hall, Woosung [illegible], to-morrow evening from 8.30 to [illegible] o'clock.

[illegible] Roman Catholic Church of St. [illegible] French Concession, masses will [illegible] to-morrow at 6, 8, and 10 a.m. [illegible] Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament [illegible] 5 p.m.

In the Roman Catholic Church of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Hongkew, masses [illegible] 6, 7.30 (sermon in Chinese) and 10 [illegible] (sermon). Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament [illegible] p.m.

IMPERIAL DECREE.

(By Telegraph.)

Peking, 13th October.

THE PEKING-HANKOW RAILWAY.

[illegible] direction and construction of the [illegible] Han Railway is hereby ordered to be [illegible] the joint control of Wang Wên-shao, Viceroy [illegible] Chihli, and Chang Chih-tung, Viceroy [illegible] the Hukwang provinces.

Note.—This decree of the Empress [illegible] shows that she has not dared [illegible] touch H.E. Chang Chih-tung [illegible] of H.E.'s well-known liberal views [illegible] shown by several prominent [illegible] of the Reform Party.]

CRICKET.

[illegible] LEGATION CLUB v. GOLF CLUB.

The following are the teams selected to [illegible] in the above match to-day, commencing at 1.30 p.m. sharp:—

[illegible]	GOLF CLUB.
[illegible]	A. J. McClure.
[illegible]	J. Turner.
[illegible]	R. Carr.
[illegible]	H. T. Butterworth.
H. [illegible]ckson.	E. W. Sharples.
[illegible]	J. Mann.
[illegible]	

[illegible] drug becomes [illegible]. And [illegible] are many who take both opium and [illegible] in all three ways—by injecting, [illegible] and smoking. The rottenness [illegible] of body and soul of such [illegible]

[illegible] the title of "Chinese [illegible]" Mrs. Maria S. James supplies [illegible] summary of Prof. Gustav [illegible]gel's proofs that primitive astronomy [illegible] Chinese origin, and that it has been [illegible] from the Chinese source by the [illegible] Western peoples. In "[illegible] Bible or [illegible]?" we have a kindly but [illegible] reply [illegible] Goodrich to a former [illegible] under the same heading. Dr. Goodrich [illegible] in sympathy with, and has [illegible] knowledge of, the methods of [illegible] the Committees of Revision appointed by the general conference of 1890. [illegible] evidently necessary that China should [illegible] (classical) and mandarin dialect [illegible] and also an easy [illegible] edition; [illegible] real "scholars" are comparatively few whilst there are multitudes of [illegible] who have studied in the schools [illegible] years and who can understand the [illegible] style; besides in many places the [illegible] in an easy classical style may be [illegible] aloud in religious services and be [illegible]stood by most of the congregation. [illegible] the harmonious working together of [illegible] committees appointed to prepare the three editions it seems from Dr. [illegible]ich's article that it is quite possible [illegible] three versions, and yet one Bible. [illegible] the other items of interest in this [illegible] of the Recorder are the concluding [illegible] by the Rev. W. [illegible] Lingle of the [illegible] experienced by the American [illegible]byterian Mission in settling in South [illegible] and succinct reports of the discussions at the Conference held at Kuling last [illegible]

Many have said their children would [illegible] of croup if Chamberlain's Cough [illegible] had not been given, write Kellam [illegible], druggists, Seaview, Va. "People [illegible] from far and near to get it and speak [illegible] in the highest terms." This is equally [illegible] of this remedy in every community [illegible] is known. Buy a bottle, test it for [illegible]. For sale by all dealers and chemists. [illegible] cents and [illegible] Dunstan & Co., [illegible] agents.

A Peking dispatch states that the Grand [illegible] Secretary Jung Lu, Generalissimo of the [illegible] forces in [illegible] province, has [illegible]dered the transfer of the Naval and [illegible] Military Pay Departments, hitherto established at Tientsin, to Peking, where the [illegible] sums of money [illegible] transmitted [illegible] the eighteen provinces for those [illegible] departments may be under H.E.'s personal superintendence. Only a branch office will [illegible] left at Tientsin to transmit the pay of [illegible] soldiers and sailors in the north to [illegible] commanding officers.

[illegible] following is the order of the services [illegible] Cathedral to-morrow, being the 19th [illegible] after Trinity. Morning:—Venite, [illegible]; Psalms, Gross, Dupuis, and Crotch; [illegible] Deum and Benedictus, in D, Garrett; [illegible] and Gloria, Mendelssohn; Hymns.

"I was recommended to the Emperor by Kao Hsi-tsêng, one of the Censors, a native of Hupeh. Then Wêng Tung-ho, the Emperor's Tutor, who is supposed to be one of the most conservative officials in China, but is not actually so, devoted some attention to me, and Li Tuan-fên, President of the Board of Rites. These officials wished to introduce me to the Emperor to give me some responsible office and to put me beside the Emperor as his adviser.

KANG'S FIRST INTERVIEW WITH THE TSUNGLI YAMÊN.

"The Emperor ordered me to hold a conference with the Ministers of the Tsungli Yamên. On the 3rd of January last, the conference took place. All the members of the Yamên were present; I was received with all respect as their guest. The conference lasted about three hours.

"I had to say that everything in China must be reformed and follow Western civilisation."

"How were your suggestions received?"

"They did not say openly. I could see that the majority of them were against reform. The Viceroy Jung Lu made the remark: 'Why should we change the manners and customs of our ancestors?' To this I replied: 'Our ancestors never had a Tsungli Yamên. Is not this a change?' The first thing I suggested was that China should have a properly-constituted judicial system—that a foreigner should be engaged to work conjointly with myself and some others to revise the laws and the Government administrative departments. That I hold to be the most important change. This must be the basis on which all other changes and reforms must rest. The construction of railways, the creation of a navy, the revision of the educational system, every other reform will follow, but unless we can change the laws and administration all other changes will be next to useless. Unfortunately, the Emperor has been pushing on the other reforms before preparing the way for them. That has contributed to bring about the present crisis.

"The following morning, Prince Kung and Wêng Tung-ho reported the conference to the Emperor. Prince Kung was against me, although I have heard it said that he admired my abilities, and thought me clever and able. But he said of me: 'He is talking nonsense; he speaks about changing the ways of our ancestors!' Wêng Tung-ho gave my proposals his support.

DARING MEMORIAL TO THE EMPEROR.

"The outcome of the conference was that I was ordered by the Emperor to submit my proposals to him in the form of a memorial. The gist of my memorial was as follows:—I told the Emperor that all the customs and ways and manners of his ancestors must be removed. Nothing could be usefully followed so far as Chinese history was concerned. I advised the Emperor to follow in the footsteps of Japan, or in the footsteps of Peter the Great. As a preliminary step, I advised the Emperor to command all his Ministers of State and all the high officials in Peking to go before the places where they worshipped the gods and also to the Ancestral Halls, there to make an oath that they were determined to introduce reforms. My second suggestion was to have the laws and administration revised; my third, that he should open a Communication or Despatch Department, through which anyone would be able to memorialise the Throne. To illustrate what I considered lacking in the Chinese system, I pointed out to the Emperor that the Ministers of the Grand Council were the tongue, the Viceroys and Governors of provinces the hands and feet, the Censors the eyes, and the Emperor the brain. I said: "You have no heart, no motive power, no proper law, no means of finding out the desires and opinions of your people. The responsibility is too widely diffused; you cannot carry things through effectively. When you want to know anything, you refer to your Ministers and Viceroys, who represent the tongue and feet; but these are not thinking organs. They can only act upon orders given them." I advised the Emperor to select young, intelligent men, well imbued with Western ideas, to assist in the regeneration of the Empire, irrespective of their position, whether they were lowly born or of high degree; that they should confer with the Emperor every day and discuss the measures for reform, first devoting their energies to a revision of the laws and administration. The old officials must be dispensed with. I advised him to appoint twelve new Departments:—1, Law Department; 2, Treasury; 3, Education (engaging foreign teachers); 4, Legislative Department; 5, Agriculture; 6, Commercial Department; 7, Mechanical Department; 8, Railway Department; 9, Postal; 10, Mining; 11, Army; 12, Navy—all the twelve departments to be modelled on Western lines and foreigners to be engaged to advise and assist. Throughout the provinces, in every two prefectures, I suggested the establishment of a sort of Legislative Council, whose chief duty would be to give effect to the instructions of the twelve departments, to police the country, to introduce sanitary measures, to construct roads, to induce the people to cultivate the land under modern methods and to spread commerce. Each of these Councils should have a President appointed by the Emperor himself, irrespective of birth, degree or position, and each President should have the liberty to memorialise the Emperor direct in the same manner as Viceroys and Governors of the Provinces, to whom he was not to be subject. In effect these Presidents were to have the same social rank as the Viceroys. The President was also to have the power to recommend a man to go to each district to co-operate with the gentry and merchant classes in giving effect to the new reforms. My memorial also showed how funds were to be raised. I pointed out the enormous loss of revenue that occurred yearly. Taking the magistracy of Nanhai (which is my native district), I informed the Emperor that the total revenue derived from that district was $240,000 per year, but the actual amount going into the Imperial Purse was only something over $20,000. I recommended a complete change of the system under which the whole of the revenues of the country would go into the Imperial Purse, comparing China with India and adducing from the experience of India the financial resources of China. I told the Emperor that from ordinary taxes the sum of four hundred million taels could be raised annually, and if the likin were abolished and a tariff properly adjusted, bank notes issued, stamp duty established and other financial reforms adopted, at least another three hundred million taels could be raised, making in all seven hundred million taels. With this money in hand it would be an easy thing to get a Navy to protect our coast and to establish Naval Colleges for the training of officers. State railways could also be constructed and other necessary reforms effected.

ry, ere the body of the departed. The wreaths and floral tributes [illegible] numerous, [illegible] marked the high esteem.

CORRESPONDENCE.

ditor does not hold himself responsible for the opinions or statements of correspondents, nor can he undertake to return anonymous MS. Correspondents are requested to write on only one side of the paper, and always to send their real name and address.

THE OUTING OF IE MEN-OF-WAR'S MEN.

ditor of the
NORTH CHINA DAILY NEWS.

—Will you allow me space in your s to express the hearty thanks of s of H.M.S. [illegible] myself kindly generosity of the ladies and riends, which enabled us to enjoy asant and successful an outing yes- Also to Mr. and Mrs. Jenner for so hospitably throwing open to ir beautiful grounds at Unkaza; and Faculty and Students of St. John's e for the evening's entertainment, was most thoroughly enjoyed by all. nking you in anticipation,

I am, etc.,
H. NEWCOMB,
Chaplain to Seamen.

ms to Seamen,
October.

THE *Foochow Echo* of the 8th instant reports:—At an early hour yesterday orning a fire broke out in the [illegible] rect of Nantai and raged nearly three ours. Upwards of 100 native houses and ops were destroyed. Originating in an ting house, half a dozen doors eastward Hong Chong's store, it crossed the street d burning all the houses up to the minary of Tuck Hing, advanced for a ne to threaten that residence, but the ervening space in the [illegible] proved be sufficient to prevent [illegible] happen- g. Nearer the river, it is said, that ssrs. Fraser, Ramsay and Co.'s Tea ng might have been lost but for pre- utions taken by the agents of the Hong- g Fire Insurance Company.

THE Director of Siccawei Observatory re- ts: Friday, [illegible] October, 10 a.m. *es of the atmosphere on [illegible].*—The hoon crossed the North of Luzon and ters the China Sea during the afternoon. gh pressures over Central China.—*Very e weather at Shanghai.* *State on the ening of the 10th.*—The weather keeps e. The barometer is still falling and has sed below the average.—*Probabilities. n.*—Rather fine weather, but liable change tomorrow. Light monsoon the N. coast. The typhoon will con-

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Wallace.
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Wales (Cox.)

Lewis.
P. Larkin.
N. E. Cornish.
H. Adams.
A. M. Reith (Capt.)

SHANGHAI YACHT CLUB.

PROGRAMME.

Saturday, 15th October, [illegible]

[illegible] "RATING" CLASS.

art by gun fire, at 2.00 p.m., sail up round stake boat moored about three above Pagoda Point, and return. tance—about 16 miles.

RACE FOR [illegible].

art and Course the same as above.

J. P. ROBERTS,
Hon. Secretary.

E LATE MR. H. A. ROHDE.

e remains of the late Mr. Hermann f Rohde who died at Chefoo on the instant, were conveyed to their last place in the New Cemetery day, amid many tokens of deep t and sympathy. The deceased leman who was only [illegible] years of age generally admired for his many ing qualities and unobtrusiveness is a distinct loss to the German and sh community. He took an active est in the Fire Brigade of which he Engineer for the Hongkew district, and held a [illegible] commission in German volunteer corps, in the mation and maintenance of which he d an important part in the early of its career and received military gnition from Berlin for his services. is not surprising therefore, that his ral, which was conducted with full hours, was attended by a large influential gathering. The mournful sion started from [illegible] Road at half four and headed by the Town Band ceeded to the place of sepulture via [illegible] Road and Thibet Road. The was borne on the ladder truck Mihholoong, drawn by members the Company, the coffin being ly palled and accompanied by eight rers, former colleagues of the Brigade. German Volunteer Company under mmand of Captain Heyn preceded ody, whilst following the mourners, of whom was Mr. M. Rohde, the de- 's brother, was a large muster of fire- under the direction of Mr. Moore, Chief Engineer. En route to the ery the band played at first oven's "Marche Funèbre" after- substituting Mendelssohn's funeral . On arriving at the gates the pro- was met by a large body of sym- sers including the majority of the of the local Volunteer force, and nent citizens, amongst whom were counted the most influential residents. The service at the side was impressively conducted by Rev. H. Hackmann, and at its con- three volleys were fired by the

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THE EMPEROR IS HIGHLY PLEASED.

"I was told that the Emperor was highly pleased, and said he had never seen a better memorial nor such a good system as I proposed. He recommended the memorial to the consideration of the Tsungli Yamên for report. Prince Kung, Jung Lu and Hsü Ying-kuei were against it, but the Emperor pressed for a reply, which was never given in detail. All the Ministers would report was that the memorial was so sweeping that it practically meant the abolition of the present great Ministers, and therefore they did not like to report upon it themselves. You will have seen in the newspapers that the Emperor had already adopted many of the recommendations contained in my memorial.

"I also sent to the Emperor two books written by myself, one entitled *The Reform of Japan* and the other *The Reform of Russia by Peter the Great*. Subsequently I sent another memorial advising the Emperor to be determined and not to dally with the proposals for reform.

INTERESTING INTERVIEW WITH THE EMPEROR.

"To this memorial the Emperor replied with an Edict. On the 16th of June I was granted an audience with the Emperor. It lasted for two hours. I was received at 5 a.m. in the Jênshow Throne-hall. Port Arthur and Talienwan had just been taken over by Russia, and the Emperor wore an anxious careworn expression. The Emperor was thin, but apparently in good health. He has a straight nose, round forehead, pleasant eyes, is clean shaven and has a pale complexion. He is of medium height. His hands are long and thin. He looked very intelligent and had a kindly expression, altogether uncommon amongst the Manchus or even amongst the Chinese. He wore the usual official dress, but instead of the large square of embroidery on the breast worn by the high officials the embroidery in his case was round, encircling a dragon, and there were two smaller embroideries on his shoulders. He wore the usual official cap. He was led in by eunuchs and took his seat on a *daïs* on a large yellow cushion, with his feet folded beneath him. He sent his attendants away and we were left alone, but all the time we were conversing his eyes were watching the windows as if to see that no one was eavesdropping. There was a long table in front of him with two large candlesticks. I knelt at one of the corners of the table and not on the cushions in front of the table which are reserved for the high officials. I remained kneeling during the whole of the audience. We conversed in the Mandarin dialect.

"The Emperor said to me: 'Your books are very useful and very instructive.'

"I practically repeated what I said in my memorial about the weakness of China being owing to the lack of progress.

"The Emperor said: 'Yes, all these Conservative Ministers have ruined me.'

"I said to him: 'China is very weak now, but it is not yet too late to amend.' I gave him the example of France after the Franco-Prussian War. In that case the indemnity was much greater than China has paid to Japan. The territory lost was greater because France had lost two provinces and China had only lost one (Formosa). I asked him how it was that France had been able to recuperate so rapidly, whereas China had done practically nothing during the three years since the close of the war.

"The Emperor listened very attentively and asked me to give the reason.

"I replied that the reason was that M. Thiers issued proclamations to the people of France advising the abolition of corrupt methods and asking their co-operation for the rehabilitation of the country, at once instituting reforms which would enable the country to recover the ground it had lost. The outcome was that the whole population of France was as one man working for one single object. Hence its quick recovery. In China, however, we have still the old Conservative Ministers who put every obstruction in the way of reform, and I told the Emperor that that was the main reason why the country was now in its present sad condition, worse off than it was three years ago, at the close of the China-Japan war.

"I asked him to look at the difficulties Japan had to overcome before she could reform on modern lines. There the military or feudal party had more power than our present Conservative Ministers, but the Mikado adopted the proper cause by selecting young and intelligent men, junior officials, some of whom he set to work out the reforms in the country, whilst others went abroad to learn foreign methods, and returned to make Japan the powerful country which it is to-day. I repeated to him what Peter the Great did to make Russia powerful, saying, 'You, the Emperor, I would ask you to remove yourself from the seclusion in which you live. Come boldly forward and employ young and intelligent officials. Follow in the footsteps of the three rulers of whom I have spoken to you, and you will find that the reforms will be more easily carried out than you at present imagine. In case China is unable to produce a sufficient number of intelligent men to give effect to the reforms you initiate I strongly advocate the employment of foreigners, particularly Englishmen and Americans.'

"I said to him: 'You must cut your coat according to your cloth,' and advised him to approach the matter carefully and deliberately. To illustrate what I meant I pointed out that if he wished to build a Palace, he must obtain plans, then buy the bricks to build the Palace according to design. 'You may be told that China has reformed during the last few years. In my opinion, nothing has been reformed. China has simply done what I have advised you not to do. She has been buying bricks to build a house before deciding on the plan or design; she is attempting to make a big coat out of an insufficient quantity of cloth.' I told the Emperor: 'Your present Government is just like a building with a leaky roof; the joists are rotten and have been eaten by white ants. It is absolutely dangerous to remain longer in the building. Not only must you take off the roof, but you must take down the whole building, and even raze the foundation. How could you expect your present old Ministers to reform? They have never had any Western education. They have never studied anything thoroughly about Western civilisation, and they could not study now if you asked them. They have no energy left. To instruct them to carry out reforms is like asking your cook to become your tailor, your tailor to become your cook, or your barber to become your chair-coolie and your chair-coolie to shave you. The result of that would be that you would not get a good coat, you would get nothing good to eat, your head would be hacked. Your Majesty is careful to select a proper tailor, a proper cook, a proper barber, and a proper chair-coolie. But in the administration of your empire, which is far more important, you do not take so much care as in your own personal affairs.'

g have received [illegible] & China
ress of the 9th ult.—Sir Henry Blake,
ew Governor of Hongkong, is to leave
lon for his post by the P. & O. str.
[illegible] on the 20th inst.—Mme. Patti
ow a naturalised British subject.—
Curzon, the new Viceroy of India,
s England for his post on the 30th of
mber.—Captain W. M. Lang, R.N.,
been retired under the age limit.—
thermometer in London registered 9[illegible]
n 8th ult.—The statutory meeting of
British and Chinese Corporation was
on the 5th ult., Mr. [illegible] Keswick in
hair. No resolution was submitted,
he Chairman dwelt on the excellent
pects of the Corporation.—After the
d January, 1900, [illegible] under a
n flag will be allowed [illegible]bers on
in European Russia and Russian
in the Far East.—The L[illegible] Express.
—The race for the St. Leger was
ed at Doncaster [illegible] inst., in the
nce of an enormous crowd of specta-
Twelve horses went to the post, the
being the largest since [illegible] defeated
een opponents in 18[illegible]. The Derby
[illegible] Mr. Larnach's *Jeddah*, started
one at 6 to 5 on, [illegible] beaten in a
r by four lengths by Captain Greer's
fowler, with Mr. [illegible] Belmont's
groom II, six lengths behind *Jeddah*.
The winner, who started at 10 to 1,
[illegible] by S. Darling and ridden by C.
l. *Disraeli*, winner of the Two Thou-
Guineas, [illegible] during the race.

---

the Mixed Court yesterday morning
e Mr. Cheng (acting magistrate) and
. F. Mayers (British Assessor) Wong
fan, a broker, was charged on suspicion
wilfully setting fire to his house No.
[illegible] foo foong, with intent to defraud
hina Fire Insurance Co. of the sum
s. 1,000 and thereby endangering
and property on the 12th inst. In-
r Wilson, who had the case in hand
that the movements of the prisoner
e night in question were very sus-
s and that he (prisoner) had taken
recautions previous to the outbreak
nove his family and a portion of his
from the house, and that the prisoner
one in the house when the fire start-
t made himself scarce shortly after.
Several witnesses, neighbours of
risoner, who had rendered valuable
nce in checking the flames, were examin-
t none of them had seen the prisoner
l at the time of the fire. Prisoner
but a weak defence, admitting that
s alone in the house at the time of
tbreak, but naturally enough claims
w nothing of the origin of the fire.
magistrate acknowledged that the
ion was very strong, but the evidence
t the prisoner was not strong
h to warrant conviction. The case
ieu remanded until Monday for the
ction of further evidence.—A boat
in the employ of Mr. Ashley was

as its course towards the N. W. over
e China Sea, and may cause very strong
ds from the N. E. quadrant in the S.
the Formosa Channel. The following
egram, dated Manila, 4 p.m., was
ceived at Siccawei at 6 o'clock: "The
phoon is apparently recurving in the
ina Sea."

Queen Wilhelmina's Proclamation to
faithful Dutchmen is a modest, digni-
, and altogether becoming document,
l one which augurs well withal for the
rit in which the youthful sovereign will
e her constitutional powers. Taking all
ngs into consideration, it is just as well
at poor "Citron" had the sense to die
thout ascending the throne of his fathers.
e princely [illegible] whom Alphonse Daudet
rtrayed in *Les Rois en Exil* under the
udonym of the Prince of [illegible], would
ve tried the patience of the phlegmatic,
obstinately independent and serious-
ded subjects very considerably. The
st blossom on the Orange branch will
ke an uncommonly [illegible] of the
[illegible]. As soon as [illegible] settled down to
work there will, of course, be talk
another [illegible] of orange blossom. All
[illegible], watched by
glish people with a sympathetic interest.
ny of us can remember that they, too,
e ruled by a girl in her teens, and they
e never had to be sorry for themselves
that account.—*Pall Mall Gazette.*

News has reached us from reliable sources
Peking that the Grand Secretary and
eralissimo Jung [illegible] with the
sent of the Empress-Dowager, ordered
00 men [illegible] Peking drawn from the
army corps of Yuan Shih-kai and
h Sze-ch'ing, who are supposed to
mand the [illegible] troops in the
ang. These 10,000 men are to form
g Lu's personal guards and special
ructions were sent to Yuan and Nieh
ick out the best men under them who
be prepared to obey orders arising
n any emergency. With the recent
osition of the troops in Chihli and
chwang noted in these columns the
r day, and the present movement of
a large body of men into Peking
re there are already 20,000 men com-
ng the Peking Field Force, Imperial
rds, Banner Corps, and Chinese Green
ner regiments, the general opinion of
Chinese in the North and also in the
gtze Valley is that they denote anti-
ign aims, which have raised high the
ectations of the reactionists and enemies
reform. Another opinion of Chinese
are friends of reform is that the bring-
in of these 10,000 men is meant to
the masses that a counter-check is
nded to the entrance of the Legation
ds, and that the Empress-Dowager and
g Lu are prepared to assist the Peking
lies and rifle all if any serious trouble
between them and the Legation
s.

"To this the Emperor replied: 'I am very sorry; I have practically no power to remove any high Ministers. The Empress-Dowager wants to reserve this power in her own hands.'

"I said: 'If your Majesty has no power to remove Ministers, what you can do is to employ young and intelligent officials about you. That would be a step better than nothing.'

"The Emperor said: "I know it perfectly well that all the Ministers have paid no proper attention to Western ideas and do not care to study the progress of the world.'

"I said to the Emperor: 'Perhaps it is their wish to get a knowledge of Western ideas but they have too much to do under the present system, and they are much too old. Their energy is gone. Even if they are willing they cannot do it The chief education of China in the study of the classics is useless, and the first thing the Emperor must do is to abolish these examinations and establish a system of education on the lines of Western countries.' I asked the Emperor: 'Can you do away with this kind of examination?'

"The Emperor said: 'I have realised that whatever is learned in Western countries is useful, but whatever is learned in China is practically useless, and I will carry out your recommendations;' which he did. I advised the Emperor to send his own relations to travel in foreign countries in order to learn from them, and that he might be surrounded by men who had experience of the world. In conclusion, I said: 'There are many other things I should like to say, but I can memoralise you from time to time.' I advised him strongly to cement his relations with foreign countries.

"The Emperor replied that the foreign countries nowadays were not like the insignificant States of former times. They appeared to be highly civilised countries, and it was a pity his own Ministers did not realise that as he did. A good deal of the trouble seemed to arise from their failure to recognise this fact.

"In December last I had advised his Majesty to form an alliance with Great Britain. Before parting I said to him: 'You have given decorations to Li Hung-chang and Chang Yin-huan. That is a Western act. Why do not you put in your Edicts that you intend to introduce Western customs?'

"The Emperor only smiled.

FIRST SIGNS OF DANGER.

"From June until I left Peking I have sent many memorials to the Emperor, but have never had another audience. I was allowed to memorialise him direct. This is the first time in the present dynasty that an individual in my position has been allowed to memorialise the Throne direct."

In answer to a question, Kang stated, Chang Yin-huan was not associated with him in the proposed reforms. He was pleased with the programme of the Reformers, but he did not take any active part in promoting the reforms. All the men arrested are junior officials in the various secretariats in Peking, all interested in reform.

Asked when the first symptons of trouble appeared, Kang stated that the signs of opposition were raised when the Emperor issued his Edict dismissing two Presidents and four Vice-Presidents. One of these Presidents is a relative of the Empress-Dowager—Huai Ta-pu, President of the Board of Rites. On the following day Li Hung-chang and Ching Hsin were removed from the Tsungli Yamên. These dismissed officials went in a body and knelt before the Empress-Dowager and asked for her assistance, saying that if she allowed the Emperor to go on in this way the whole of the old officials would soon be dismissed. Then these officials went to Tientsin and saw Jung Lu, who may be said to be the best friend of the Empress-Dowager. Rumours got about that the Emperor intended to dispose of the Empress-Dowager, and she then determined that Jung Lu should take the first step. That was on or about 14th or 15th September. On the 17th September an open Edict was issued by the Emperor, asking why Kang Yu-wei was still in Peking and did not proceed to Shanghai at once to attend to the establishment of the Official organ. "That was a hint to me to go away. An Edict of this sort is generally issued to a Viceroy or a Chief General, and not to men of my rank. The morning I saw this Edict I was highly astonished. On that evening a special private message was sent to me by the Emperor. The message was sent in writing. Part of it appeared in the *China Mail* last night. I happened to be out and did not receive the message till the morning of the 18th September.

THE EMPEROR WARNS KANG.

"On the morning of the 18th, I received two special messages from the Emperor, one dated 16th September and the other 17th September. The first one read:—

"'We know that the Empire is in very troublous times. Unless we adopt Western methods it is impossible to save our Empire; unless we remove the old-fashioned Conservative Ministers and put in their stead young and intelligent men possessed of a knowledge of Western affairs, it is impossible to carry out the reforms we had intended. But the Empress-Dowager does not agree with me; I have repeatedly advised Her Majesty, but she becomes enraged. Now I am afraid I will not be able to protect my Throne. You are hereby commanded to consult your colleagues and see what assistance you can give to save me.' I am very anxious and distressed. I am anxiously waiting for your assistance. Respect this.'

"The second Edict was as follows:—'I have commanded you to superintend the establishment of the *Official Organ*. It is strongly against my wish. I have very great sorrow in my heart, which cannot be described with pen and ink. You must proceed at once outside (abroad), and devise means to save me without a moment's delay. I am deeply affected with your loyalty and faithfulness. Please take great care of your health and body. I hope that before long you will be able to assist me again in re-organising my Empire, and to put everything upon a proper basis. This is my earnest wish.'

"After I received the Edicts I had a meeting with my colleagues as to the best thing to be done. I saw Mr. Timothy Richard, the American missionary, and asked him to see the British Minister at once. Unfortunately Sir Claude Macdonald was at Petaiho. Then I sent to the American Legation, but was told that the American Minister had gone to Hsishan. If Sir Claude Macdonald had been at the British Legation, I believe measures could have been devised to avoid this crisis.

"In the city everything was quiet. There was no sign of an impending crisis. Nobody anticipated trouble; nobody was in fear of his life. On the 19th I heard from my friends that the position was getting more serious. Up to this time I had remained in my quarters in the Canton Club or Caravanserai. At four o'clock on the morning of the 20th, I left the city, passing through the gates, leaving all my baggage behind in the care of my brother. I retained a compartment in the railway carriage, and travelled direct to Tangku by rail. At Tientsin I boarded the Indo-China steamer *Lienshing* and asked for a cabin. When the people on board saw I had so little baggage they said: 'You must go and get a ticket at the office before we can allow you to come on

Government that notwithstanding all rumours to the contrary, e Belgian Syndicate will fulfil its omise to finance the Lu-Han railway.

At the Legations it is not thought at Li Hung-chang is an important ctor in the present crisis.

Thirty-two Japanese troops arrived Peking to-day, and the arrival ll these parties is producing a serious pression in the Palace. Prince Ching s sent to entreat the Legations not increase their guards, but was told at while the reaction continues no ch assurance can be given; on the ntrary, the Government was warned ainst persisting in extreme measures, its proscription, in its dismissal of icials who memorialised in favour reform; not to mention the rumours m the Forbidden City of vengeance en upon innocent officials and nuchs, which are producing wide-ead alarm.

The reign of suspicion among the pulation of Peking specially affects ives who have been heretofore inti-te with foreigners.

t is considered that foreigners at king are in no danger.

Chungking 14th October.

CHUNGKING QUIET.

or the last few days the city of ungking has been very quiet and ters gradually dying out. The nch father, however, is still held hostage by the rebels, under Yü [illegible].

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he s.s. [illegible] with the London mail he 10th of September left Hongkong at p.m. yesterday. She brings 1,025 ts of Malwa and one chest of Benares um, and 6,651 bales of Bombay yarn.

he M.M. steamer [illegible] with the ls from Japan left Kobe for Shanghai a.m. yesterday.

he last Polo games of the season will place this afternoon.

he tender *Victoria* will leave the P. & jetty at 9 a.m. to-day to convey pas-gers to s.s. *Belgic* and not as previous-dvertised.

R. J. W. JAMIESON, Acting British sul at Szemao, has been directed to the Burmo-Chinese Frontier Commission, and was to report at Bhamo on 1st of next month.

ccording to the *Universal Gazette* it reported in Peking on the 9th instant Chang Yin-huan, the banished ex-Vice sident of the Board of Revenue, was pped" at a place called Liangchiang, ut three days journey from Peking, oute for Kashgaria, by a secret order [illegible]

d on suspicion [illegible] rope, 40 feet of wire [illegible] cable, a ty of planking [illegible], total $15, from a [illegible] in the Soochow the property of his employer, on s dates. Prisoner, who had $9 wages was sentenced to one month's imprisonment and to forfeit his wages.—A was charged with stealing the sum the property of Mr H[illegible]son, from Canton Road, on the 13th inst. s sentenced to receive 100 blows.

ATEST INTELLIGENCE.

SUPPLIED THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY
EXCLUSIVELY TO THE
"NORTH CHINA DAILY NEWS."

London, 14th October.

TO SAVE THE SULTAN'S FACE.

The Porte proposes to retain a small rison in Crete as an emblem of ereignty.

JOR MARCHAND'S DIFFICULTIES.

accredited reports have reached ndon that Major Marchand is in h straits that it will be impossible him to remain long in Fashoda.

IE U. S. PRESIDENT AT OMAHA.

Speaking at Omaha, President Mc-nley referred to the new and grave blems confronting the American ion.

He said: "We must avoid the ptation of undue aggression, and st aim only at securing our own eneral welfare as ours has never been military Government."

(*From Saigon Papers.*)

Paris, 24th September.

Madame Paulmier has mortally wounded Olivier, editor of the *Lanterne*, in con-quence of allusions to her private life ovoked by a letter of M. Paulmier, puty, calling upon General Chanoine repress the attacks on the army.

30th September.

M. Olivier's condition is better. Madame Paulmier has been provision-y released.

1st October.

A duel took place this morning between ulmier and Turot, the author of the ticle in the *Lanterne*. Both were slight-wounded.

Madame Carnot, the widow of the late esident, died suddenly yesterday at ste-Alais.

SPECIAL TELEGRAMS.

Peking, 13th October.

The Belgian Minister has assured [illegible]

board.' I went back to Tientsin again and went into a hotel—not a hotel of my own countrymen but the hotel of another province. I had been advised to shave my moustache off and to change my dress, but I left myself to fate. I stayed overnight at Tientsin and early in the morning went on board the *Chungking*. I had to go as an ordinary Chinese passenger, because I was afraid if I asked for a cabin I would again be refused a passage on account of the absence of baggage. Mr. Timothy Richard offered me an asylum at his house, but as I had received instructions from the Emperor to proceed abroad I thought it best to leave the capital. I got no letter from the British Legation; I had no communication with the British Legation. The steamer called at Chefoo, where nothing unusual happened. When I arrived at Woosung the British Consul was kind enough to offer me a place of safety on board the *Esk*. I believe Mr. Richard must have gone to the Legation at Peking and that instructions were given to the British Consul to be on the lookout for me. I was surprised at this, but I am very grateful to Messrs. Brenan and Bourne and to the captain of the ship for the kindness they showed to me during my stay at Woosung.'

"What do you intend to do?"

"The Emperor has instructed me to go abroad and procure assistance for him. My intention is to approach England in the first instance. England is well known to be the most just nation in the world. England has twice saved Turkey, once at the sacrifice of twenty thousand men and a large sum of money, and I think England will come to the assistance of the Emperor of China now. While I was in Shanghai I requested the British Consul to wire to the Foreign Office at home asking for this assistance to His Majesty. Personally, I think it is to England's interest to take this opportunity to support the Emperor and the party of progress, for by so doing they will be helping the people of China as well, and the population of China will consider England as their best and truest friend. If England does not take steps now I am afraid that when the Siberian Railway is finished Russian influence will predominate throughout the whole of China. If England succeeds in replacing the Emperor on the Throne I have no hesitation in saying that the Emperor and the Reform leaders will not forget her kindness. When I left Peking the Emperor was still in good health."

Before leaving Kang was asked if he had anything further to add to the interview—anything he had forgotten.

He replied—"I should like it to be stated that when I saw the Emperor I said I did not go to Peking for money or position. I simply went there to try to do my best to save the four hundred millions of China, I told him I would not take any high position until I had been instrumental in carrying through the proposals for reform I had made to him. Then I would accept anything His Majesty was pleased to give me. Had he given me position now, it would simply have created jealousy among the old Ministers; besides I did not feel that I had done anything to warrant such elevation. The Emperor was good enough to send me two thousand taels as a special reward—a thing, I believe, which has never been done in the history of the present dynasty."

The interview concluded with a request on the part of Kang to urge the English people to take steps for the protection of the relatives of Liang Chi-chao, who had been arrested by the officials in the Hsinhui district of Canton. These relatives, we understand, consist of his foster mother, aunt, uncle, brother and his nephew and two others.

No. 77

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October 23rd, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Mr. Bainbridge leaves Peking on leave of absence granted him by the Department's telegram of the 11th instant.

No. 77

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October 23rd, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:-

Informing you that Mr. William E. Bainbridge, Second Secretary of this Legation, started today for the United States on leave of absence granted by the Department's telegram of the 11th instant,

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

No. 78

File

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October 27th, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: The books which accompanied Instructions No. 26, September 2nd, 1898, - received.

(Despatch No. 12, July 12th, 1898.)

No. 78

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, October 27th, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the following named books which accompanied the Department's Instructions No.26, of September 2nd last:

Two copies of the "Consular Regulations" of 1896;

Two copies "Personal Instructions for Diplomatic Officers;and

One copy of each of the "Supplements to the Revised Statutes of the United States", published subsequent to 1881.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

6

No. 282.

Navy Nov'

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

From Peking, Nov. 1, 1898

Received 10:20 A.M.

Hay,

Washington.

Have requested Boston to send eighteen marines Peking and thirty Tien-Tsin.

Conger.

To Congress Feb. 10

COPIED FOR CONGRESS.

COPIED. FOREIGN RELATIONS.

Deciphered by Miss Morris.

Nov. 1, 1898. M.

11.32 a.m.

No. 79

Dec. 22/98

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, November 2nd, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: State of the Emperor's health. Dr. Detheve's diagnosis. Copies of official correspondence on the subject.

(Despatch No. 74, October 19th, 1898.)

No. 79

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 2nd, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

Referring to my despatch No.74, October 19th last, in which I reported to the Department the visit of Dr. Dethéve, of the French Legation, at the palace, -I have now the honor to enclose for your further information copies of the /2 official correspondence between the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps and the Tsungli Yamen in regard to the Emperor's /3 health and also a copy of Dr. Dethéve's official diagnosis of the case.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

Enclosures:

1. The Tsungli Yamen to the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps, October 21st, 1898, with reply.
2. Dr. Dethéve's diagnosis, copy sent Yamen, Oct. 20, 1898.
3. Result of Dr. Dethéve's consultation. Given to the public.

LÉGATION DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE EN CHINE

Enclosure No. 1 in Despatch No. 79

DIAGNOSTIC DU Dr DETHÈVE

(Remis au Tsongli Yamen, le 20 Octobre 1898).

Le 18 Octobre 1898, le Dr Dethève, médecin de la Légation de France, appelé par Sa Majesté l'Empereur de Chine, à l'effet d'examiner l'état de sa santé, a constaté les symptômes suivants, tant par la note que Sa Majesté a bien voulu lui remettre, que par les questions auxquelles elle a bien voulu répondre:

A première vue, état général faible, amaigrissement assez marqué, attitude lasse, visage pâle.

L'appétit est assez bon, mais les digestions sont lentes; diarrhée légère; les matières rendues sont blanchâtres et incomplètement digérées. Vomissements assez fréquents. Les troubles respiratoires sont manifestés par de l'oppression, une angoisse sous forme d'accès. L'auscultation des poumons, que Sa Majesté a bien voulu permettre, n'a pas révélé d'indices bien saillants.

Du côté de la circulation, les troubles sont plus nombreux. Pouls faible et fréquent, maux de tête, sensation de chaleur à la poitrine, bourdonnements d'oreilles, étourdissements qui donnent l'impression que le pied manque.

A ces symptômes il faut ajouter l'impressionnabilité au froid, surtout aux jambes et aux genoux, la sensation de doigt mort, des crampes aux mollets, des démangeaisons, légère surdité, diminution de l'acuité visuelle, douleurs aux reins.

Mais, ce sont surtout les troubles de l'appareil urinaire, qui ont ici de l'importance. A l'aspect, l'urine paraît blanche et claire, peu abondante; son analyse n'a pas démontré la présence de l'albumine, mais une diminution de densité. Sa Majesté urine souvent, mais peu à la fois et la quantité, en 24 heures, semble inférieure à la normale. Sa Majesté insiste sur la spermatorrhée,

qui se manifeste la nuit et qui est toujours suivie de sensations voluptueuses. Ces pollutions nocturnes auraient été suivies de la diminution de la faculté d'entrer en érection, le jour, à volonté.

Après avoir longuement réfléchi à ces différents symptômes, j'ai acquis la conviction que la maladie provenait d'une lésion aux reins, qu'en Europe on nomme Néphrite, ou inflammation chronique du rein.

A l'état sain, le sang, en passant dans le rein, se débarrasse des produits qui sont le résidu des échanges nutritifs et qui sont de vrais poisons pour l'organisme. Lorsque le rein ne laisse plus passer ces produits avec l'urine, par suite de lésions de cet organe, ces mêmes produits sont emportés par le sang dans les différents organes, s'y accumulent, et causent des troubles fonctionnels, comme ceux énoncés ci-dessus.

Il est donc nécessaire de donner un régime qui ne charge pas trop le travail du rein, et dont les résidus puissent être entraînés par l'urine.

Le régime par excellence est le régime du lait absolu, sans autre alimentation. Il consiste à ne prendre que du lait, de vache ou de femme, trois ou quatre litres par jour, dans lequel ou fait dissoudre 50 grammes de lactose (sucre de lait). Ce régime doit être suivi pendant plusieurs mois.

Comme médicament, la poudre de Digitale a une réelle utilité. Les douleurs aux reins peuvent être calmées par des frictions sèches et des révulsifs.

On voit les urines se régulariser, l'oppression disparaître et une grande amélioration se produire.

Quant à la spermatorrhée, elle provient de l'état d'affaiblissement général et, en particulier, des muscles du bas-ventre, qui ne s'opposent plus à la sortie du sperme. Et il importe donc de se préoccuper d'abord de l'état des reins et d'y porter remède; après quoi, il sera plus facile de s'attaquer à la spermatorrhée. Tel est mon humble avis, que je soumets à Sa Majesté avec le grand désir que j'ai de la soulager.

Enclosure No. 2 in Despatch No. 79

Dépêche du TSUNGLI YAMEN
(Prince K'ing, — Wang, — Léao, — Tch'ong, — Siu, — et Yuan)
à S. EXC. M. CÓLOGAN,
Ministre d'Espagne, Doyen.

Kouang-Siu 24e Année, 9e lune, 7e jour.
(= 21 Octobre 1898.)

COMMUNICATION OFFICIELLE:

Précédemment, la santé de Sa Majesté l'Empereur ayant été défectueuse, Elle prit plusieurs fois des médicaments, sans que l'on pût constater une grande amélioration.

Le 11 de la 8ème lune (26 Septembre), nous reçûmes du Ministre de France, Son Exc. M. Pichon, une lettre dans laquelle il nous disait qu'il avait appris l'état défectueux de santé de Sa Majesté l'Empereur, que le Dr Dethève, médecin de sa Légation, avait le vif désir de rendre service en cette circonstance, et qu'il nous priait d'en informer le Trône.

Le Ministre d'Angleterre, Son Exc. Sir Claude MacDonald, nous a représenté aussi avec insistance qu'il convenait de recourir en même temps à la médecine occidentale (1).

Notre Yamen fit alors connaître ces faits au Trône et, peu après, reçût un Décret Impérial lui ordonnant de donner rendez-vous, le 4 de la 9e lune (18 Octobre), au médecin précité, pour qu'il se rendît dans les Jardins Occidentaux du Palais et y procédât à un examen médical. Depuis, le 6 de la lune (20 Octobre), le Dr Dethève nous a envoyé un précis des causes de la maladie, dans lequel il est dit:

« A constaté que Sa Majesté l'Empereur a (un état général) faible, « amaigrissement assez marqué, visage pâle. Les digestions sont lentes, les « matières sont incomplètement digérées. L'auscultation des poumons n'a pas

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(1) Le Ministre d'Angleterre, Sir Claude MacDonald fait observer que ce qu'il a conseillé au Tsungli Yamen c'est exactement d'avoir recours à un « médecin occidendal », et la phrase peut également être ainsi traduite d'après le texte chinois.

« révélé d'indices bien saillants. Du côté de la circulation, les troubles sont plus « nombreux. Pouls faible et fréquent. Mais, ce sont surtout les troubles de « l'appareil urinaire qui ont ici de l'importance. L'urine paraît blanche « et claire, peu abondante ; son analyse n'a pas démontré la présence de « l'albumine(1), mais une diminution de densité. Après avoir longuement « réfléchi à ces différents symptômes, j'ai acquis la conviction que la maladie « de Sa Majesté provenait d'une lésion aux reins, qu'en Europe on nomme « Néphrite, ou inflammation chronique du rein. Lorsque le rein ne laisse « plus passer ces produits (résidus) avec l'urine, par suite de lésions de « cet organe, il est nécessaire de donner un régime qui ne charge pas trop « le travail du rein et dont les résidus puissent être entraînés par l'urine. Le « régime par excellence est le régime du lait absolu, sans autre alimentation. « Il consiste à ne prendre que du lait, de vache ou de femme, — trois « ou quatre litres par jour, — dans lequel on fait dissoudre cinquante « grammes de lactose (sucre de lait). Comme médicament, la poudre de « digitale a une réelle utilité. Quant à la spermatorrhée, elle provient de « l'état d'affaiblissement général, en particulier des muscles du bas-ventre, qui « ne s'opposent plus à la sortie du sperme. Il importe donc de se préoccuper « d'abord de l'état des reins et d'y porter remède ; après quoi, il sera plus facile « de s'attaquer à la spermatorrhée. »

Nous adressons, par la présente dépêche, à V. Exc. l'extrait ci-dessus du précis, fait par le Dr Dethève, des causes de la maladie, et nous La prions de le porter à la connaissance de tous les Ministres étrangers à Pékin, afin de dissiper leur anxiété.

Pour traduction conforme.
Le Consul, 1er Interprète de la Légation de France.
[Signé :] A. Vissière.

(1) Le texte porte ici 淡 au lieu de 蛋.

LÉGATION D'ESPAGNE

DÉCANAT
DU
CORPS DIPLOMATIQUE.

Pékin, ce 26 octobre 1898.

A Son Altesse le PRINCE *et Leurs Excellences les* MINISTRES *du Tsung-li Yamen.*

J'ai eu l'honneur de recevoir la note du 21 octobre dans laquelle Votre Altesse et Vos Excellences m'informent de la visite que le Dr Dethève, médecin de la Légation de France, a faite à Sa Majesté l'Empereur, et me communiquent son opinion médicale sur l'état de santé de Sa Majesté.

J'en ai donné connaissance à mes honorables Collègues et ils m'ont tous chargé de prier le Yamen d'élever au Trône l'expression de leur vif regret pour la maladie dont Sa Majesté souffre, en même temps que les vœux très sincères qu'ils font pour le rétablissement de sa précieuse santé.

Je profite de l'occasion pour renouveler à Votre Altesse et à Vos Excellences les assurances de ma très-haute considération.

BERNARDO J. DE CÓLOGAN.

Enclosure No. 3 in Despatch No. 79

Résultats de la consultation donnée par le Docteur Dethève a l'Empereur.

Affaiblissement marqué, amaigrissement, pâleur, douleurs des reins, très grande impressionabilité au froid, sensation de doigt mort aux deux mains, essouflement, oppression, céphalalgie, bourdonnement d'oreilles avec demi-surdité, diminution de l'acuité visuelle et étourdissements, digestions lentes avec vomissements acides peu fréquents. — Pas d'albumine dans les urines qui sont fréquentes, peu abondantes, blanches et claires, à réaction acide. Pas d'œdème aux jambes. — Pouls faible et fréquent. — Tous les Symptômes d'une Néphrite Chronique, à traiter par le régime du lait, la digitale, les ventouses et les frictions à la région des reins. — Pas de danger immédiat.

[Signé] Dr Dethève.

No. 80.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 2nd, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Confirming Legation's telegram of the 31st ultimo.

Request for marines as Legation guard.

No. 80.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 2nd, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to confirm, on the overleaf, my cipher telegram to the Department of the 31st ultimo,

and to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant.

TELEGRAM SENT,-CIPHER.

PEKING, OCTOBER 31st, 1898.

HAY,

WASHINGTON.

HAVE REQUESTED BOSTON TO SEND EIGHTEEN MARINES PEKING AND THIRTY TIENTSIN.

(SIGNED) CONGER.

8

No. 81

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
Copy essential part to Navy Dept to show history of etc. matter of legation guard at Peking.
DEC 20 1898

So ach.

DIPLOMATIC
DEC 20 1898
BUREAU.

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D.
19 DEC 1898
DEPT. OF STATE

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 3rd, 1898.

Ackd and To Navy Dept Dec 23/98 e

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

To Congress Feb. 10

COPIED FOR CONGRESS.
COPIED. FOREIGN RELATIONS.

Subject: Copies of the correspondence between the Dean of Diplomatic Corps and the Tsungli Yamen, with translations, on the question of bringing the Legation guards to Peking.

(Despatch No. 56, October 1st, 1898.)

No. 81

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 3rd, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

As promised in my despatch No.56, of October 1st last, I now have the honor to enclose copies of the complete correspondence between the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps and the Tsungli Yamen, together with translations, on the question of bringing the foreign Legation guards to Peking.

It will be observed that at first the Yamen objected, but when informed that they were to be brought with or without consent, they arranged for and permitted the use of train; and in every case have furnished escorts from the railway station, which is several miles outside the city wall, to the gates of the Legations.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Enclosures:

Enclosures:

1. Sir Claude Macdonald to the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps, September 30th, 1898.

   The Dean to the Tsungli Yamen, Octber 1st, 1898, together with translation.

   The Tsungli Yamen to the Dean, October 2nd, 1898, with translation.

2. The Tsungli Yamen to the Dean, October 4th, 1898, with translation.

3. The Tsungli Yamen to the Dean, October 4th, 1898, with translation.

4. The Dean to the Tsungli Yamen, October 5th, 1898, with translation.

5. The Tsungli Yamen to the Dean, October 5th, 1898, with translation.

6. The Tsungli Yamen to the Dean, October 5th, 1898, with translation.

7. The Dean to the Tsungli Yamen, October 5th, 1898, with translation.

8. Sir Claude Macdonald to the Dean, October 6th, 1898.

9. The Dean to the Tsungli Yamen, October 8th, 1898, with translation.

10. The Tsungli Yamen to the Dean, October 7th, 1898, with translation.

11. The Dean to the Tsungli Yamen, October 8th, 1898, with translation.

Enclosure No. 1 in Despatch No. 81

Enclosure in Despatch No.

Sir.Claude Macdonald to the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps,September 30th,1898.

British Legation,September 30th,1898

My dear Doyen:-

This afternoon in coming from the station Mr.Mortimore,a member of this Legation,and an English lady whom he was escorting from the station,were without any reason whatever severely pelted with mud and stones,they fortunately escaped without very serious injury but had the mob been able to procure more stones the results might have have been very serious,indeed fatal.

I am,of course,taking steps for redress in this matter vis-a-vis the Chinese government,but I venture to think that this is a matter which does not effect this Legation alone. This lady was not pelted with stones and mud because she was English,but because she was an European,I therefore am of opinion that it is a question which should be taken up by the whole Diplomatic Body as a Body,as well as by myself,I would feel greatly obliged therefore if you kindly call a meeting tomorrow to take the views of the other Representatives in this matter.

Believe me,etc.,etc.
(Signed)Claude Macdonald.

Enclosure No. 1 in Despatch No. 81

Enclosure in [illegible] No.

Sir.Claude Macdonald to the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps,September 30th,1898.

British Legation,September 30th,1898

My dear Doyen:-

This afternoon in coming from the station Mr.Mortimore,a member of this Legation,and an English lady whom he was escorting from the station,were without any reason whatever severely pelted with mud and stones,they fortunately escaped without very serious injury but had the mob been able to procure more stones the results might have have been very serious,indeed fatal.

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Believe me,etc.,etc.

(Signed)Claude Macdonald.

Pékin, le Ier October 1898.

A Son Altesse le Prince et Leurs Excellences les Ministres
du Tsungli Yamen.

Altesse et Excellence:

C'est avec peine qu'en ma qualité de Doyen et pour la décision de tous les Représentants étrangers j'informe Votre Altesse et Vos Excellences que dans l'après-midi d'hier des actes violents et très répréhensible d'aggression ont été commis contre des étrangers.

Je trouve inutile de référer des détails. Il Suffit de constater ici que le père d'un membre de la Légation des Etats-Unis d'Amérique a été grièvement blessé, et qu'un membre de la Légation Britannique et une dame anglaise, un autre citoyen francais et deux sujets japonais, ont été blessés ou atteints et insultés tous en venant de la gare du chemin de fer. Je dois ajouter que des agents de police qui étaient présents et dont on a demandé la protection, se sont refusés a intervenir. En même temps une dame du Corps Diplomatique la Marquise Salvago Raggi, a été victime de railleries, et de menaces et d'insultes dégoutantes quand elle passait dans sa chaise, en allant du Pei-t'ang au Hsi-t'ang.

Tous mes honorables collègues me Chargent de communniquer à Votre Altesse et à Vos Excellences que des actes de cette nature sont absolument intolérables. Qu'ils aient été commis par la foule n'est pas une excuse acceptable qui puisse en atténuer la gravité et la responsibilité car il existe évidemment des meneurs de cette agitation contre les étrangers. Il y a en effet plusieurs jours, que nous avons appris que l'on proférait des menaces contre nous tous.

Pékin, le 1er Octobre 1898.

A Son Altesse le Prince et Leurs Excellences les Ministres du Tsungli Yamen.

Altesse et Excellences:

C'est avec peine qu'en ma qualité de Doyen et pour la déclaration de tous les Représentants étrangers Votre Altesse et l'informer Vos Excellences que dans l'après-midi d'hier des actes violents et très répréhensible d'agression ont été commis contre des étrangers.

Je trouve inutile de relever des détails. Il Suffit de constater ici que le père d'un membre de la Légation des Etats-Unis d'Amérique a été grièvement blessé, et qu'un membre de la Légation Britannique et une dame anglaise, un de citoyen Français et deux sujets japonais, ont été plus ou attaints et insultés tous en venant de la gare du chemin de fer. Je dois ajouter que des agents de police qui étaient présents et dont on a demandé la protection, se sont refusés à intervenir. En même temps une dame du Corps Diplomatique la Marquise Salvago Raggi, a été victime de railleries, et de menaces et d'insultes désagréables quand elle passait dans sa chaise, en allant du Pei-t'ang au Nan-t'ang.

Tous mes honorables collègues me Chargent de communiquer à Votre Altesse et à Vos Excellences que des actes de cette nature sont absolument intolérable qu'ils aient été commis par la foule n'est pas une excuse acceptable qui puisse en atténuer la gravité et la responsabilité car il existe évidemment des mesures de cette répression contre les étrangers Il y a un effet plus lointain, que nous avons appris que l'on préparait des menaces contre nous tous.

Je demande donc au Tsungli Yamen au nom de mes honorables collègues, que sans perte d'un seul moment le Gouvernement chinois prenne des mésure energiques pour garantir la sécurité de la représentation des nations étrangères de même que la libre circulation de leur personnel et des étrangers de toute nationalité à Pékin.

Le Corps Diplomatique exige aussi une immédiate réponse à cette note, la quelle nous fasse connaître quelles sont les mesures et précautions prises, a fin de pouvoir les examiner et les apprécier. Cette affaire est très grave pour la Chine et je ne saurais trop recommender à Votre Altesse et à Vos Excellences de lui prêter une prompte et très-sérieuse attention.

Je profite de l'occasion pour réitérer à Votre Altesse et à Vos Excellences les assurances de ma très hautes considération.

Je demande donc au Tsungli Yamen au nom de mes honorables collègues, que sans perte d'un seul moment le Gouvernement chinois prenne des mesures energiques pour garantir la securité de la representation des nations etrangères de même que la libre circulation de leur personnel et des etrangers de toute nationalité à Pekin.

Le Corps Diplomatique exige aussi une immediate reponse à cette note, la quelle nous fasse connaître quelles sont les mesu res et precautions prises, a fin de pouvoir les examiner et les apprecier. Cette affaire est très grave pour la Chine et je ne saurais trop recommander à Votre Altesse et à Vos Excellences de lui preter une prompte et très-sérieuse attention.

Je profite de l'occasion pour reiterer à Votre Altesse et à Vos Excellences les assurances de ma très haute consideration.

Translation of the foregoing.

To His Highness, the Prince, and Their Excellencies of the Tsungli Yamen.

Highness and Excellencies:

It is with pain that in my capacity as Dean of the Diplomatic Corps, and by direction of all the Foreign Representatives, I have to inform Your Highness and Your Excellencies, that on yesterday afternoon some very violent and disgraceful attacks were committed against foreigners.

It is not necessary to mention them in detail. It is sufficient to state that the father of a member of the Legation of the United States of America, was severely wounded, and that a member of the British Legation and an English lady, a French citizen and two ~~German~~ Japanese subjects, were wounded, or attacked and insulted. All while proceeding from the railroad station.

I must add that the police officials who were present, and from whom protection was demanded, refused to interfere.

About the same time, the Marchioness Salvago Raggi, a lady of the Diplomatic Corps, was the victim of railleries, threats and annoying insults, as she passed in her chair going from the Pei t'ang to the Hsi-t'ang.

All

Translation of the foregoing.

3.

To His Highness, the Prince, and Their Excellencies of the Tsungli Yamen.

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It is not necessary to mention them in detail. It is sufficient to state that the father of a member of the Legation of the United States of America, was severely wounded, and that a member of the British Legation and an English lady, a French citizen and two ~~German~~ subjects, were wounded, or attacked and insulted. All while proceeding from the railroad station.

I must add that the police officials who were present, and from whom protection was demanded, refused to interfere.

About the same time, the Marchioness Salvago Raggi, a lady of the Diplomatic Corps, was the victim of railleries, threats and annoying insults, as she passed in her chair going from the Pei t'ang to the Nai-t'ang.

All

All of my honorable colleagues charge me to communicate to Your Highness and Your Excellencies that acts of this character are absolutely intolerable. That they were committed by a mob is not a sufficient excuse to reach the gravity and responsibility of the case, because there are evidently leaders of this agitation against foreigners.

In fact for several days we have been informed that such threats were being made against us.

I therefore, in the name of my honorable colleagues, request of the Tsungli Yamen that without loss of a single moment the Chinese government take energetic measures to guarantee the security of the Representatives of foreign nations, the free circulation of their staffs and of foreigners of every nationality in Peking.

The Diplomatic Corps require also an immediate reply to this note which should make known to us what are the measures and precautions taken to the end of enabling me to examine and understand them.

This affair is a very serious one for China, and I cannot recommend too strongly to Your Highness and Your Excellencies that you give to it prompt and very serios consideration.

I

All of my honorable colleagues charge me to communicate to Your Highness and Your Excellencies that acts of this character are absolutely intolerable. That they were committed by a mob is not a sufficient excuse to reach the gravity and responsibility of the case, because there evidently leaders are of this agitation against foreigners.

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I therefore, in the name of my honorable colleagues, request of the Tsungli Yamen that without loss of a single moment the Chinese government take energetic measures to guarantee the security of the Representatives of foreign nations, the free circulation of their staffs and of foreigners of every nationality in Peking.

The Diplomatic Corps require also an immediate reply to this note which should make known to us what are the measures and precautions taken to the end of enabling us to examine and understand them.

This affair is a very serious one for China, and I cannot recommend too strongly to Your Highness and Your Excellencies that you give to it prompt and very serious consideration.

I improve the occasion to reiterate to Your Highness and Your Excellencies the assurance of my high consideration.

(Signed) Colegan.

I improve the occasion to reiterate to Your Highness

and Your Excellencies the assurance of my high consideration.

(Signed) Colegan.

Enclosure No. in Despatch No.

Translation of a note from the Tsungli Yamen, October 2nd, 1898.

Les Ministres du Yamen a S.E.D.Bernardo de Cologan, Ministre d'Espagne et Doyen du Corps Diplomatique.

Nous avons l'honneur d'accuser réception de la lettre par laquelle V.E.nous annonçait son intention de se rendre aujourd'hui à quatre heures et quart au Yamen pour une communication verbale a faire aux membres du Yamen.

Aujourd'hui nous avons dû présider à la de justice et nous n'avons pas pu attendre V.E.à l'heure fixée, Nous avons déjà envoyé à votre légation une lettre pour avertir.

A présent puisque V.E.a une communication a nous faire à vive voix nous nous proposons de nous rendre tous à votre légation demain le trois courant à deux heures et nous esperons que V.E.aura la bonté de nous attendre .

Avec les cartes de Wang-wen-hao, Hsu-yung-i, Liao-shou-hong et Ch'ung-li.

Traduit par S.Vitale.

Enclosure No. in Despatch No.

Translation of a note from the Tsungli Yamen, October 2nd, 1898.

Les Ministres du Yamen a S.E.D.Bermardo de Calogan, Ministre d'Espagne et Doyen du Corps Diplomatique.

Nous avons l'honneur d'accuser reception de la lettre par laquelle V.E.nous annonçait son intention de se rendre aujourd'hui a quatre heures et quart au Yamen pour une communication verbale a faire aux membres du Yamen.

Aujourd'hui nous avons du preadder a la de justice et nous n'avons pas pu attendre V.E. l'heure fixee, Nous avons deja envoye a votre legation une lettre pour avertir.

A present puisque V.E.a une communication a nous faire a vive voix nous nous proposons de nous rendre tous a votre legation demain le trois courant a deux heures et nous esperons que V.E.aura la bonte de nous attendre .

Avec les cartes de Wang-wen-hao, Han-yung-i, Liao-shou-hong et Ch'ung-li.

Traduit par S.Vitale.

Translation of the foregoing.

Translation of a note from the Tsungli Yamen, October 2nd, 1898.

The Ministers of the Yamen to His Excellency, D. Bernardo de Cologan, Spanish Minister and Dean of the Diplomatic Corps:

We have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the letter by which Your Excellency announces his intention of coming to the Yamen today at a quater past four to make a verbal communication to the members of the Yamen.

Today we must preside at the Board of Justice and we cannot meet Your Excellency at the hour named. We have already sent to your Legation a letter to notify you.

However since Your Excellency has a verbal communication to make to us, we propose to go to your Legation, tomorrow, the 3rd instant, at two oclock, and we hope that Your Excellency will have the goodness to await us there.

With the cards of Wang-wen-hao, Hsu-yung-i, Liao-shon-hong and Ch'ang-li.

Translation of the foregoing.

Translation of a note from the Tsungli Yamen, October 2nd, 1898.

The Minister of the Yamen to His Excellency, D. Bernardo de Cologan, Spanish Minister and Dean of the Diplomatic Corps:

We have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the letter by which Your Excellency announces his intention of coming to the Yamen today at a quarter past four to make a verbal communication to the members of the Yamen.

Today we must preside at the Board of Justice and we cannot meet Your Excellency at the hour named. We have already sent to your Legation a letter to notify you.

However since Your Excellency has a verbal communication to make to us, we propose to go to your Legation tomorrow, the 3rd instant, at two o'clock, and we hope that Your Excellency will have the goodness to await us there.

With the cards of Wang-wen-hao, Wen-yung-i, Liao-shou-hong and Ch'ung-li.

Enclosure No. 2 in Despatch No. 61

Translation of a note from the Tsungli Yamen, October 4th, 1898.

Lettre rouge du Yamen au Doyen du Corps Diplomatique.

Quant à l'incident des coups de pierre et de briques lancées au Tien-ciao, le Yamen a déjà donné ordre d'arrêter les coupables de les punir sévèrement et d'établir un moyen sûr de protection pour éviter les ennuis qui pourraient suivre.

A présent nous entendons que tous les Ministres Etrangers qui résident à Pekin ont parlé d'un projet d'appeler des troupes à Pekin pour se protéger par eux-mêmes.

Si cela est vrai nous croyons alors que les sentiments populaires en seront excités et il pourra se produire de nouveaux incidents.

Dans un mot la Chine doit absolument reconnaitre le droit qu'elle a de protéger et trouver les moyens à ce but sans légèreté ou précipitation.

Nous devons donc prier V.E. de vouloir bien communiquer aux Ministres vos Collègues de télégraphier pour arrêter les soldats qu'il n'est pas nécessaire d'appeler à Pekin.

Veuillez agréer etc.

Traduit par S. Vitale.

Enclosure No. 2 in Despatch No. 81

Translation of a note from the Tsungli Yamen, October 4th, 1898.

Lettre rouge du Yamen au Foyen du Corps Diplomatique.

Quant à l'incident des coups de pierre et de briques lancées au Tien-chao, le Yamen a déjà donné ordre d'arrêter les coupables de les punir sévèrement et d'établir un moyen sûr de protection pour éviter les ennuis qui pourraient survenir. Le Yamen today at a quarter past four to wait a

A présent nous entendons que tous les Ministres Etrangers qui résident à Pekin ont parlé d'un projet d'appeler des troupes à Pekin pour se protéger par eux-mêmes. Si cela est vrai nous croyons alors que les sentiments populaires en seront excités et il pourra se produire de nouveaux incidents. We propose to go to your Legation to-

Dans un mot la Chine doit absolument reconnaître le droit qu'elle a de protéger et trouver les moyens à ce but sans ingérence ou précipitation. Hao, Pan-yung-i, Hsiao-shan-

Nous devons donc prier V.E. de vouloir bien communiquer aux Ministres vos Collègues de télégraphier pour arrêter les soldats qu'il n'est pas nécessaire d'appeler à Pekin.

Veuillez agréer etc.

Traduit par S.Vitale.

Translation of the foregoing.

Red letter of the Yamen to the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps.

Referring to the incident of brick and stone throwing at Tien-ciao, the Yamen has already given orders for the arrest and severe punishment of the offenders and to establish certain measures of protection in order to avoid troubles which may follow.

Just now we have heard that all the Foreign Ministers who reside at Peking have spoken of a project to call troops to Peking for the purpose of guarding themselves.

If this true, we believe the popular sentiment will be excited by it and it will be likely to produce new incidents.

In a word China must avow absolutely the right which she has to protect and to find means to that end without inconsiderations or hurry.

We must therefore beg Your Excellency to be kind enough to request the Ministers, your colleagues, to telegraph in order to stop the soldiers whom it is not necessary to call to Peking.

Please accept etc., etc.

Translation of the foregoing.

Red letter of the Yamen to the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps.

Referring to the incident of brick and stone throwing at Tien-otao, the Yamen has already given orders for the arrest and severe punishment of the offenders and to establish certain measures of protection in order to avoid troubles which may follow.

Just now we have heard that all the Foreign Ministers who reside at Peking have spoken of a project to call troops to Peking for the purpose of guarding themselves.

If this true, we believe the popular sentiment will be excited by it and it will be likely to produce new incidents.

In a word China must avow absolutely the right which she has to protect and to find means to that end without inconsiderations or hurry.

We must therefore beg Your Excellency to be kind enough to request the Ministers, your colleagues, to telegraph in order to stop the soldiers whom it is not necessary to call to Peking.

Please accept etc., etc.

Enclosure No. 3 in Despatch No. 81

Le Yamen a S.E.D.Bernardo de Cologan,Ministre d'Espagne et Doyen du Corps Diplomatique .

Nous avons l'honneur d'accuser reception de la note envoyée par V.E.au Yamen en date du 1er Octobre.

(Suit le texte de la note abrege.)

Nous faisons remarquer que le même jour avant même d'avoir reçu la note envoyée par V.E.nous avions déja reçu un édit impérial dans les termes suivants:-

"Nous ordonnons que le Prince et les Ministres du Ya-"men fassent aussitôt une enquête et traitent cette affaire d'une façon satisfaisante ."

Alors le Yamen a écrit au Quartier général de la Gendarmerie pour que les coupables de ces désordes fussent immediatament arrêtés et severement punis et pour établir un moyen sûr de protection afin d'éviter la repetition de pareils.

La Gendarmerie a déja arrêté et puni les coupables auxquels,on a mis le kangue au cou pour être d'avis salutaire à la foule. On a aussi envoyé un grand nombre des piquets des soldats choisis qui dans leur rayon veilleront à la sûreté,apaiseront les troubles et fourniront protection.

Ainsi

Enclosure No. 3 in Despatch No.

Translation of the foregoing.

Le Yamen a S.E.D.Bernardo de Cologan,Ministre d'Espagne et Doyen du Corps Diplomatique .

Nous avons l'honneur d'accuser reception de la note envoyee par V.E.au Yamen en date du 1er Octobre.

(Suit le texte de la note abrege.)

Nous faisons remarquer que le même jour avant même d'avoir reçu la note envoyée par V.E.nous avions déjà reçu un edit imperial dans les termes suivants:-

"Nous ordonnons que le Prince et les Ministres du Yamen fassent aussitôt une enquête et traitent cette affaire d'une façon satisfaisante."

Alors le Yamen a ecrit au Quartier general de la Gendarmerie pour que les coupables de ces dassordes fussent immediatement arretes et severement punis et pour etablir un moyen sur de protection afin d'eviter la repetition de pareils.

La Gendarmerie a déjà arreté et puni les coupables auxquels,on a mis la hampe au cou pour etre d'avis salutaire a la foule. On a aussi envoye un grand nombre de piquets de soldats choisis qui dans leur rayon veilleront a la surete,apaiseront les troubles et fourniront protection.

Ainsi

Ainsi il n'y aura pas d'autres desordes. En donnant ces renseignements etc., etc.

Ainsi il n'y aura pas d'autres desordes. En donnant ces renseignements etc., etc.

Le Yamen a S.E.D.Bernardo de Cologan,Ministre d'Espagne et Doyen du Corps Diplomatique .

Nous avons l'honneur d'accuser reception de la note envoyée par V.E.au Yamen en date du 1er Octobre.

(Suit le texte de la note abregé.)

Nous faisons remarquer que le même jour avant même d'avoir reçu la note envoyée par V.E.nous avions déjà reçu un édit imperial dans les termes suivants:-

"Nous ordonnons que le Prince et les Ministres du Yamen fassent aussitôt une enquête et traitent cette affaire d'une façon satisfaisante."

Alors le Yamen a écrit au Quartier general de la Gendarmerie pour que les coupables de ces desordes fussent immédiatement arrêtés et severement punis et pour établir un moyen sûr de protection afin d'éviter la repetition de pareils.

La Gendarmerie a déjà arrêtés et punis les coupables auxquels,on a mis le kangue au cou pour être d'avis salutaire à la foule. On a aussi envoyé un grand nombre des piquets des soldats choisis qui dans leur rayon veilleront à la sûreté,apaiseront les troubles et fourniront protection

ainsi

Translation of the foregoing.

The Yamen to His Excellency D.Bernardo de Cologan, Spanish Minister and Dean of the Diplomatic Corps. Oct.2,98.

We have the honor to acknowledge receipt of the note sent by Your Excellency to the Yamen on the 1st of October.

(Here follows an abridged text of the note.)

We have to say that on the same day,even before we had received the note sent by Your Excellency,we had already received an Imperial Edict in the following terms:-

"We order that the Prince and the Ministers of the Yamen should immediately proceed with an investigation and treat this affair in a satisfactory manner.

Then the Yamen wrote to the chief officer of the Gendarmerie to forthwith arrest and severely punish those responsible for the disorder and to establish such protective measures as will prevent the repetition of like disorders.

The Gendarmerie has already arrested and punished the offenders,upon the necks of whom they have put kangs to serve as a salutary warning to the crowd.

They have also sent a great number of pickets of selected soldiers who within their sphere will look after the security,allay the disturbances and furnish protection.

Then there will be no further trouble.

Etc., etc.

Translation of the foregoing.

The Yamen to His Excellency D.Bernardo de Cologan,

Spanish Minister and Dean of the Diplomatic Corps. Oct.2,'98.

We have the honor to acknowledge receipt of the note sent by Your Excellency to the Yamen on the 1st of October.

(Here follows an abridged text of the note.)

We have to say that on the same day,even before we had received the note sent by Your Excellency,we had already received an Imperial Edict in the following terms:-

"We order that the Princes and the Ministers of the Yamen should immediately proceed with an investigation and treat this affair in a satisfactory manner.

Then the Yamen wrote to the chief officer of the Gendarmerie to forthwith arrest and severely punish those responsible for the disorder and to establish such protective measures as will prevent the repetition of like disorders.

The Gendarmerie has already arrested and punished the offenders,upon the necks of whom they have put kangs to serve as a salutary warning to the crowd.

They have also sent a great number of pickets of selected soldiers who within their sphere will look after the security,allay the disturbances and furnish protection.

Then there will be no further trouble.

Etc., etc.

Enclosure No. 4 in Despatch No. 81

(Copy)

Pekin ce 5 October, 1898.

A.S.A.et S.S.E.E. le Prince et Ministres du Tsungli Yamen:

J'ai eu l'honneur de recevoir la Note que V.A.et V.V. E.E.m'ont adressée hier en réponse à la mienne du 1er Octobre, et Je dois informer le Yamen que mes honorables collègues ont tous unanimement jugé que cette réponse est trés peu satisfaisante à divers points de vue. Le Corps Diplomatique n'en déduit pas des motifs suffisants pour être sûr de la protection des étrangers à Pekin et il remarque très-spécialement que sa réduction ne correspond pas du tout aux expressions de regret et de courtoisie qu'il avait le droit d'espérer du gouvernement chinois.

Les Répresentants des Nations à Pekin, aprés avoir examiné l'affaire qui est traitée dans la Lettre Rouge de la même date, ont décidé de faire venir à la capitale, comme ils s'étaient proposés d'abord des marines ou des soldats autant pour la garde du personnel de leurs Légations que pour la guarantie de tous les étrangers, de dont ils réclament le droit de se faire juges. Ile me chargent de dire au Yamen que demain matin les trois premiers

détachments

Yamen:

détachments, composés chacun d'environ 30 hommes allemands, anglais et russes seront prêts à quitter Tientsin pour Pékin.

Je prie au nom du Corps Diplomatique le Yamen de donner les ordres nécessaires pour que l'on mette un train spécial à leur disposition pour qu'ils puissent effecter le voyage.

Des escortes militaires appartenant à d'autres nations suivront dans quelques jours aussitot qu'ils seront débarqués.

etc., etc.

détachements, composés chacun d'environ 30 hommes allemands, anglais et russes seront prêts à quitter Tientsin pour Pékin.

Je prie au nom du Corps Diplomatique le Yamen de donner les ordres nécessaires pour que l'on mette un train spécial à leur disposition pour qu'ils puissent effectuer le voyage.

Des escortes militaires appartenant à d'autres nations suivront dans quelques jours aussitôt qu'ils seront disponibles.

etc., etc.

Translation of the foregoing.

Doyen of the Diplomatic Corps to the Tsungli Yamen, October 5th, 1898.

To His Highness, the Prince and Their Excellencies the Ministers of the Tsungli Yamen.

I have had the honor of receiving the note which Your Highness and Your Excellencies have yesterday addressed me in reply to mine of October 1st, and I must inform the Yamen that all my honorable colleagues think that this reply is not very satisfactory from several points of view.

The Diplomatic Corps does not deduct from it sufficient cause to be sure of the protection of foreigners in Peking, and it remarks very especially that its tenor does not at all correspond with the expression of regret and courtesy which it had a right to expect from the Chinese government.

The Foreign Representatives at Peking, after having examined the matter which is discussed in the red letter of this date, have decided to bring to the capital, as they have already proposed, some marines or soldiers, as well to guard the personel of their Legations as for a guaranty to all foreigners, of which they reserve the right to judge for themselves.

themselves.

They direct me to say to the Yamen that day after tomorrow, the three first detachments, composed each of about thirty men, Germans, English and Russians, will be ready to leave Tientsin for Peking.

In the name of the Diplomatic Corps, I request the Yamen to give the necessary orders for a special train to be placed at their disposal in order that they may accomplish the journey. The military escorts belonging to other nations will follow as soon thereafter as they are disembarked.

etc.,

etc.

Translation of the foregoing.

Enclosure No. 5 in Despatch No. 81

The Tsungli Yamen to the Doyen, October 5th, 1898.

Réponse du Tsungli Yamen a D.Bernardo de Cologan, Ministre d'Espagne et Doyen du Corps Diplomatique

Nous accusons reception de la note de V.E.en date de hier au sujet des escortes qu'on veut appeler a Pekin.

(Suit un abrige de la note.)

Le Yamen remarque que V.E.dans sa note du 1er courant avait informé le Yamen des diffrents incidents qui eussent le 30 Septembre, mais que le même jour et avant même que la note de V.E.nous fut remise, nous avions déjà reçu un Edit Imperial qui ordonnait à nous, Prince et Ministres du Tsungli Yamen, de proceder aussitôt a une enquête et du définir regulièrement cette affaire. En conformète de cet ordre, nous avons ecrit à la Direction generale de la Gendarmerie pour faire saisir aussitot les coupables, auteurs des dfsordres, et les faire punir très severement, comme aussi pour rendre responsables et degrader les sous-officiers et soldats qui se sont montres negligeants dans les precautions de police.

Le 4 courant le Conseil d'Etat a reçu un Edit verbal de S.M.l'Empereur, fait dont nous avons deja donne connaissance à V.E.et à tous les Representants Etrangers.

Les

Enclosure No. 5 in Despatch No. 81

The Tsungli Yamen to the Doyen, October 5th, 1898.

Reponse du Tsungli Yamen a D. Berrardo de Cologan,

Ministre d'Espagne et Doyen du corps Diplomatique.

Nous accusons reception de la note de V.E. en date de hier au sujet des escortes qu'on veut envoyer a Pekin.

(Suit un abrige de la note.)

Le Yamen remarque que V.E. dans sa note du 1er courant avait informe le Yamen des difficultes inopinees qui ont empeche le 30 September, mais que le meme jour et avant meme que la note de V.E. nous fut remise, nous avions deja recu un Edit Imperial qui ordonnait a nous, Princes et Ministres du Tsungli Yamen, de proceder aussitot a une enquete et du definir regulierement cette affaire. En conformete de cet ordre, nous avons ecrit a la Direction generale de la Gendarmerie pour faire saisir aussitot les coupables, auteurs des desordres, et les faire punir tres severement, comme aussi pour rendre responsables et degrader les sous-officiers et soldats qui se sont montres negligents dans les precautions de police.

Le 4 courant le Conseil d'Etat a recu un Edit verbal de S.M. l'Empereur, fait dont nous avons deja donne connaissance a V.E. et a tous les Representants Etrangers.

Les

Les dfsordres sont arrives à l'imprevu mais S.M.l'Empereur,à peine a été renseigné sur la chose même avant que Votre note fut arrivee,a donné immediatement Ordre de traiter immediatement et surement cette affaire.

Cela equivaut a une preuve sincere (de la bonne intention) de proteger.

Encore Nous Prince et Ministres,regrettons infiniment ces désordres,et en conformite du Decret Imperial et avec l'aide de la Gendarmerie et des Censeurs de Pekin nous allons établir,un moyen sûr de protection. Dorenavant la responsabilite de proteger restera a la Chine qui trouvera avec sûrete un moyen satisfaisant dans l'espoir de jouir ensemble d'une paix ininterrompue.

Nous esperons que V.E.informera ses collegues qu'ils veuillent bien paramabilite ne pas faire venir leurs soldats pour les proteger cela au but d'eviter que l'esprit du peuple soit excite et que des faux bruits circulent et provoquent,nous craignons des autres incidents.

Traduit par

S.Vitale.

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Traduit par

S.Vitale.

Translation of the foregoing.

Reply of the Tsungli Yamen to D.Bernardo de Colegan, Spanish Minister and Dean of the Diplomatic Corps.

Peking, October 5th, 1898.

We acknowledge receipt of the note of Your Excellency of yesterday's date on the subject of the escorts it is still desired to call to Peking.

(Follows an abridgment of the note.)

The Yamen notes that Your Excellency in his note of the 1st instant informed the Yamen of the several incidents which occurred on September 30th, but that on the same day and even before the note of Your Excellency had been sent, we had already received an Imperial Edict which ordered us, the Prince and Ministers of the Tsungli Yamen, to proceed immediately to an inquiry and to definitely determine that affair.

In conformity with that order we have written to the Director General of the Gendarmerie to immediately ascertain the responsible authors of the disturbances and to cause them to be very severely punished, as well as to fix the responsibility and degrade the under officers and soldiers who have shown themselves negligent in their police duties.

On the 4th instant the Council of State received a

verbal

Translation of the foregoing.

Reply of the Tsungli Yamen to D.Bernardo de Calogan,
Spanish Minister and Dean of the Diplomatic Corps.

Peking,October 4th,1898.

We acknowledge receipt of the note of Your Excellency of yesterday's date on the subject of the escorts it is still desired to call to Peking.

(Follows an abridgment of the note.)

The Yamen notes that Your Excellency in his note of the 1st instant informed the Yamen of the several incidents which occurred on September 30th,but that on the same day and even before the note of Your Excellency had been sent, we had already received an Imperial Edict which ordered us, the Prince and Ministers of the Tsungli Yamen, to proceed immediately to an inquiry and to definitely determine that affair.

In conformity with that order we have written to the Director General of the Gendarmerie to immediately ascertain the responsible authors of the disturbances and to cause them to be very severely punished,as well as to fix the responsibility and degrade the under officers and soldiers who have shown themselves negligent in their police duties.

On the 4th instant the Council of State received a

verbal

verbal Edict from His Majesty, the Emperor, part of which we have already brought to the attention of Your Excellency and to all the Foreign Representatives.

These troubles have come unexpectedly, but His Majesty, the Emperor, at once upon being informed of the affair, even before your note had arrived, had given immediate orders to treat promptly and definitely this matter.

This furnishes a sincere proof of their intention to protect.

However, We, the Prince and the Ministers, infinitely regretting the disturbances, and in conformity with the Imperial Decree, and with the aid of the Gendarmerie, and the Censors of Peking, we are going to establish sure means of protection.

Henceforth the responsibility of protection will rest with China, who will find with certainty a satisfactory way with the hope of enjoying an uninterrupted peace.

We hope that Your Excellency will ask your colleagues to be kind enough not to bring their soldiers for protection. This for the purpose of preventing the spirit of the people from being excited, the circulation of false rumors, and provoking, we fear, other troubles.

etc., etc.

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These troubles have come unexpectedly, but His Majesty the Emperor, at once upon being informed of the affair, even before your note had arrived, had given immediate orders to treat promptly and definitely this matter.

This furnishes a sincere proof of their intention to protect.

However, We, the Prince and the Ministers, instantly rescinding the disturbances, and in conformity with the Imperial Decree, and with the aid of the Gendarmerie, and the Censors of Peking, we are going to establish sure means of protection.

Henceforth the responsibility of protection will rest with China, who will find with certainty a satisfactory way with the hope of enjoying an uninterrupted peace.

We hope that Your Excellency will ask your colleagues to be kind enough not to bring their soldiers for protection. This for the purpose of preventing the spirit of the people from being excited, the circulation of false rumors, and provoking, we fear, other troubles.

etc., etc.

Enclosure No. 6 in Despatch No. 81

Translation of a note from the Tsungli Yamen, October 5th, 1898.

Lettre rouge du Yamen a S.E. le Ministre d'Espagne et Doyen du Corps Diplomatique.

Nous accusons réception de la dépêche par laquelle V.E. nous informait que les Légations de Russie, d'Allemagne, et d'Angleterre avaient de nouveax ordonné comme elles s'étaient proposées avant, à leur escortes de marins ou de soldats de venir à Pékin, etc.

Nous Prince et Ministres après avoir lu cette note avons décidé de nous prier d'arrêter tenporairement la venue de ces troupes à Pékin. Demain à 9.30 nous nous rendrons à votre Légations pour discuter à voix ces questions et nous espérons que V.E. veuille nous attendre.

Traduit par S. Vitale.

Enclosure No. 6 in Despatch No. 81

Translation of a note from the Tsungli Yamen, October 5th, 1898.

Lettre rouge du Yamen a S.E.le Ministre d'Espagne et Doyen du Corps Diplomatique.

Nous accusons reception de la depeche par laquelle V.E.nous informait que les Legations de Russie, d'Allemagne, et d'Angleterre avaient de nouveax ordonne comme elles s'etaient proposees avant, a leur escortes de marins ou de soldats de venir a Pekin, etc.

Nous Prince et Ministres apres avoir lu cette note avons decide de nous prier d'arreter temporairement la venue de ces troupes a Pekin. Demain a 3.30 nous nous rendrons a votre Legations pour discuter a voix ces questions et nous esperons que V.E. voudlle nous attendre.

Traduit par S.Vitale.

Translation of the foregoing.

Red letter of the Yamen to His Excellency, the Spanish Minister and ~~the~~ Dean of the Diplomatic Corps.

We acknowledge receipt of the despatch by which Your Excellency informs us that the Legations of Russia, Germany and England had issued new orders, as they before proposed, for their escorts to come to Peking, etc., etc.

We, Prince and Ministers, after having read this note, have decided to ask you to temporarily stop the coming of these troops to Peking.

Tomorrow at nine o'clock we will repair to your Legation to discuss verbally these questions, and we hope Your Excellency will kindly await us, etc

etc., etc., etc.

Translation of the foregoing.

Red letter of the Yamen to His Excellency, the Spanish

Minister and the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps.

We acknowledge receipt of the despatch by which Your

Excellency informs us that the Legations of Russia, Germany

and England had issued new orders, as they before proposed,

for their escorts to come to Peking, etc., etc.

We, Prince and Ministers, after having read this note,

have decided to ask you to temporarily stop the coming of

these troops to Peking.

Tomorrow at nine o'clock we will repair to your Le-

gation to discuss verbally these questions, and we hope Your

Excellency will kindly await us.

etc., etc., etc.

Enclosure No. 7 in Despatch No. 81

Translation of a note to the Tsungli Yamen, October 5th, 1898.

(Envoyee a 10.30 du soir.)

Pekin ce 5 Octobre 1898.

A Son Altesse le Prince et S.S.E.E. les Ministres du Tsungli Yamen.

Je viens de recevoir la note et la lettre de V.A. et de V.V.E.E. a propos du depart des escortes allemande, anglaise et russe pour Pekin. V.A. et V.E.E. m'annoncent aussi leur visite pour demain a 9.30 afin de parler avec moi de cette affaire dans le but de suspendre le voyage.

Je m'empresse de repondre que demain a 9.30 je n'aurai rien a discuter ou parler avec V.A et V.V.E.E. sur cette question, car je dois me conformer a la resolution prise hier par le Corps Diplomatique et que j'ai eu l'honneur de communiquer a V.A. et V.V.E.E. dans ma note de ce matin.

etc., etc., etc.

Cette note fut approuvee par les Ministres d'Allemagne et d'Angleterre et par le Charge d'Affaire de Russie dans la nuit du 5, auxquels elle a été soumise comme directment interesses dans le voyage des trois detachements étant impossible de la faire connaitre aux autres collegues

a

Enclosure No. 7 in Despatch No.

Translation of a note to the Tsungli Yamen, October 5th, 1898.

Excellency informs us that the Legations of Russia, Germany and England had issued new orders, as they before proposed, for their escorts to come to Peking, etc., etc.

(Envoyée à 10.30 du soir.)

Pekin ce 5 Octobre 1898.

A Son Altesse le Prince et S.E.M. les Ministres du Tsungli Yamen.

Je viens de recevoir la note et la lettre de M.A. et de M.M.E.E. a propos du depart des escortes allemande, anglaise et russe pour Pekin. V.A. et V.E.E. m'annoncent aussi leur visite pour demain à 9.30 afin de parler avec moi de cette affaire dans le but de suspendre le voyage.

Je m'empresse de repondre que demain à 9.30 je n'aurai rien à discuter ou parler avec V.A. et V.V.E.E. sur cette question, car je dois me conformer à la resolution prise hier par le Corps Diplomatique et que j'ai eu l'honneur de communiquer à V.A. et V.V.E.E. dans ma note de ce matin.

etc., etc., etc.

Cette note fut approuvée par les Ministres d'Allemagne et d'Angleterre et par le Chargé d'Affaire de Russie dans la nuit du 5, auxquels elle a été soumise comme étant impossible de la faire connaître aux autres collègues timent interessés dans le voyage des trois détachements

a

à moins de passer la nuit tous en veille.

Pékin, minuit 5 Octobre 1898.

(signé) Cologan.

being impossible to make it known to the other colleagues.

à moins de passer la nuit tous en veille.

Pekin,minuit 6 Octobre 1898.

(signé) Cologan.

(Envoyée à 10.30 du soir.)

Pekin ce 5 Octobre 1898.

A Son Altesse le Prince et S.E.M. les Ministres de

Tsungli Yamen.

Je viens de recevoir la note et la lettre de M.A.et

de M.M.E.E. à propos du départ des escortes allemande,anglaise

et russe pour Pekin.V.A.et V.E.M'annoncent aussi leur

visite pour demain à 9.30 afin de parler avec moi de cette

affaire dans la but de suspendre le voyage.

Je m'empresse de repondre que demain à 9.30 je n'aurai rien à discuter ou parler avec M.A et V.V.E.E.sur cette question,car je dois me conformer à la resolution prise hier par le Corps Diplomatique et que j'ai eu l'honneur de communiquer à V.A.et V.V.E.E, dans ma note de ce matin.

etc., etc., etc.,

Cette note fut approuvée par les Ministres d'Allemagne et d'Angleterre et par le Chargé d'Affaire de Russie dans la nuit du 5,auxquels elle a été soumise comme étant impossible de la faire connaître aux autres collègues vivement intéressés dans le voyage des trois détachements ;

Translation of the foregoing.

Sent at 10.30 p.m.

Peking, October 5th, 1898.

To His Highness the Prince, and Their Excellencies the Ministers of the Tsungli YYamen:

I have received the note and letter of Your Highness and Your Excellencies in regard to the departure of the German, English and Russian escorts for Peking.

Your Highness and Your Excellencies announce also your visit for tomorrow at 9.30 o'clock for the purpose of discussing that affair with me, with the object of suspending the voyage.

I hasten to reply that tomorrow at 9.30 I will have nothing to discuss or argue with Your Highness and Your Excellencies, upon that question because I must carry out the resolutions taken by the Diplomatic Corps yesterday, and which I had the honor to communicate to Your Highness and Your Excellencies in my note of this morning.

Exc., etc., etc.

This note was approved by the Ministers of Germany and England, and by the Charge d'Affaires of Russia, on the night of the 5th instant, to whom it was submitted, as being directly interested in the voyage of these three detachments, it being impossible to make it known to the other colleagues,

Translation of the foregoing.

Sent at 10.30 p.m.

Peking,October 8th,1898.

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Peking, midnight, October 5th, 1898.

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Enclosure No. 8 in Despatch No. 81

Copy of letter of Sir Claude Macdonald to the Diplomatic Body, dated October 6th, 1898.

Peking, October 6th, 1898.

My dear Dean:-

I beg to report for the information of my colleagues that this morning I received a visit from His Highness Prince Ching and three members of the Chinese Government.

After a discussion lasting over two hours, they agreed to allow the passage of the Legation escorts, and to provide a special train for their conveyance, and also to grant any other facilities which might be necessary. They also stated that they would guarantee that order would be preserved during the passage of the escorts.

The Prince and Ministers stated that the bringing of troops to Peking was my iniative, and if the English detachment did not leave Tientsin, no other detachments would.

I said that the entire Diplomatic Body were in accord in this matter, and we were acting as one, no single power taking the lead in any way.

They

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I said that the entire Diplomatic Body were in accord in this matter, and we were acting as one, no single power taking the lead in any way.

They

They told me that they had been informed that the contrary was the case,but they declined to tell me who had been their informant. Under the circumstances I shall feel obliged if Your Excellency will write a letter to the Prince and Ministers,stating in the name of all the foreign representatives that in the matter of bringing Legation Guards to Peking the entire Diplomatic Body is in accord,and the action taken is not due to the initiative of any one particular Legation,but is due to the deliberate and expressed wish of the entire Diplomatic Body.

I am,

My dear Dean,

Yours very sincerely.

(Signed.) Claude Macdonald.

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Yours very sincerely,

(Signed.) Claude Macdonald.

Enclosure No. in Despatch No.

Interview between Sir Claude MacDonald and Prince Ching and the Ministers Hsu Yung,Ching-li and Hu Yu-yi,Governor of Peking at the British Legation on 6th October,1898.

The Prince appealed to Sir Claude Macdonald to countermand his marines who were on their way to Peking to act as Legation Guard.

The Empress Dowager,whom he had seen that morning was exceeding disturbed at the intention of the foreign representatives to summon their guards to this city. Her Majesty had issued a decree that day setting forth the great importance China attached to the proper protection of foreigners and enjoining the strictest precautions. The Prince thought that the Chinese Government had given quite sufficient proof of its determination to make proper arrangements for this purpose,and that the presence of foreign guards was unnecessary. He dwelt upon the slight to the dignaty of China which would be involved in the action of the foreign representatives.

Sir Claude Macdonald recounted the events of the past few days in connection with this affair. He had consented at the request of the Chinese Government,and in conjunction

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Enclosure No. 1 in Despatch No.

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with the representatives of Germany and Russia,whose detachments had already arrived at Taku,to delay the arrival of his men pending a meeting of the Diplomatic Body,and expressed his opinion that the foreign representatives would be guided by the action of the Chinese Governemnt in the matter. If the Chinese Government took satisfactory steps it was probable that the Guards would not come to Peking.

Unfortunately at this meeting of the Diplomatic Body on the evening of the 4th instant,a despatch was read from the Yamen treating the affair of the assaults upon foreigners very lightly and neither in this despatch nor in a red letter,which arrived at the same time,were there any expressions of regret as to what had occurred. This decided the foreign representatives at once to summon their guards from Tientsin.

Sir Claude Macdonald earnestly advised the Prince that the course the Chinese Government could now adopt was to give willing assent to the arrival of the guards,provide a special train and afford every facility to the guards during their passage to Peking. This would have a very good effect upon the foreign representatives and combined with proper and stringent measures for the prevention of similar assaults upon foreigners would possibly result in an early departure departure

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departure of the men brought up.

The Prince pleaded strongly for delay and for division of the guards into detachments to come up separately.

To all these requests Sir Claude Macdonald gave a distinct refusal. He regretted the necessity for so doing, but the Chinese had brought it upon themselves.

The Ministers stated that they had heard that Sir Claude Macdonald was taking the initiative in this matter and that he had only to agree to countermand his men for all the other foreign representatives to follow suit, but they declined to give the names of their informants.

Sir Claude Macdonald showed that this was not the case. The action of the foreign representatives had been decided upon jointly and could only be reconsidered jointly. He again advised them to make arrangements for the transit of the men.

It was finally understood that a special train would be provided the next day, so as to bring the men to Ma Chia pu not later than 4.p.m.

The interview lasted upwards of two hours.

(Signed) H.E.Fulfud.

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It was finally understood that a special train would be provided the next day, so as to bring the men to Ma Chia pu not later than 4.p.m.

The interview lasted upwards of two hours.

(Signed) H.K.Fulford.

Enclosure No. 9 in Despatch No. 81

A copy of a note to the Tsungli Yamen dated October 8th, 1898.

Pékin ce 8 Octobre 1898.

A.S.A.le Prince et S.S.E.E. les Ministres du Tsungli Yamen.

Son Excellence le Ministre d'Angleterre m'informe dans une lettre qu'il m'a adressée en ma qualité de Doyen que pendant la visite que V.A.et trois autres Ministres du Tsungli Yamen lui ont faite dans la matinée du 6 Octobre, V.A.et S.S.E.E. lui avaient dit que les escortes étrangères venaient à Pékin par sa seule initiative et que si le detachement anglais ne quittait pas Tientsin aucun autre ne viendrait ce qu'il avait contredit ayant affirmé que cette affaire avait été traitée par le Corps Diplomatique tout entier et que tous les representants agissaient d'accord.

Sur la demande de S.E.et avec l'assentiment de tous les autres collègues je m'adresse aujourd'hui au Yamen pour constater que les escortes étrangères viennent en effet à Pékin par la décision unanime de tout le Corps Diplomatique prise dans des réunions qui ont été tenues pour déliberer en commun et examiner mûrement la question.

Je profite etc., etc., etc.

Enclosure No. 1 in Despatch No. 81

A copy of a note to the Tsungli Yamen dated October 8th, 1898.

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Je profite etc., etc., etc.

Translation of the foregoing.

Peking, October 6th, 1898.

To His Highness, the Prince, and Their Excellencies of the Tsungli Yamen.

His Excellency the British Minister informs me in a letter addressed to me in my capacity as Dean, that during a visit which Your Highness and three other Ministers of the Tsungli Yamen made him on the morning of October 6th, Your Highness and Your Excellencies said to him that the foreign escorts were coming to Peking by his sole initiation and if the English detachment should not leave Tientsin no other would come; that he had denied this and affirmed that the affair was considered by the whole Diplomatic Corps and all the representatives acted together.

Upon the request of His Excellency and with the approval of all the other colleagues, I today address the Yamen in order to certify that the foreign escorts are in fact coming to Peking by the unanimous decision of the whole Diplomatic Corps, taken at a meeting which was held for the purpose of deliberating together and carefully examining the question.

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Translation of the foregoing.

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Enclosure No. 10 in Despatch No. 81

The Tsungli Yamen to the Doyen October 7th, 1898.

Le Yamen a M. De Cologan, Ministre d'Espagne et Doyen du Corps Diplomatique.

Pour communication officielle . Dans la note de V.E. en date du 5 courant il était dit que le nombre des soldats composant chacun des escortes (russe, anglaise et allemande) était d'une trentaine. Mais les détachements arrivés aujourd'hui à Pekin, les Allemands étaient 30, les Anglais moins de 30, et seulement de Russes il y en avait 66. Cela est en contradiction avec la note que V.E. nous a envoyée, nous devons prier V.E. de vouloir nous repondre immediatement et de nous en expliquer la cause . Cela est important.

Traduit par

S. Vitale.

Enclosure No.10 in Despatch No. 81

The Tsungli Yamen to the Doyen October 7th,1898.

Le Yamen a M.De Cologan,Ministre d'Espagne et Doyen du Corps Diplomatique.

Pour communication officielle. Dans la note de V.E.en date du 5 courant il etait dit que le nombre des soldats composant chacunes escortes (russe,anglaise et allemande) etait d'une trentaine. Mais les detachements arrivés sur-le-champ n'ont a Pekin,les Allemands etaient 30,les Anglais moins de 30,et seulement de Russes il y en avait 66.Cela est en contradiction avec la note que V.E.nous a envoyée nous devons prier V.E.de vouloir nous repondre immediatement et de nous en expliquer la cause . Cela est important.

Traduit par

S.Vitale.

Translation of the foregoing.

The Tsungli Yamen to the Dean, October 7th, 1898.

The Yamen to Mr. De Cologan, Spanish Minister and Dean of the Diplomatic Corps.

For an official communication, it was said in Your Excellency's note of October 5th instant, that the number of soldiers composing each of the escorts (Russian, English and German) was about thirty. But the detachments arrived today, the Germans had thirty, the English less than thirty, and the Russians alone had sixty-six.

This is not in accordance with the note which Your Excellency sent us.

We request therefore that Your Excellency will be kind enough to reply immediately and explain to us the cause of it.

This is important.

Translation of the foregoing.

The Tsungli Yamen to the Dean,October 7th,1899.

The Yamen to Mr.De Cologan,Spanish Minister and Dean of the Diplomatic Corps.

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Enclosure No. 11 in Despatch No. 81

Copy of A note to the Tsungli Yamen dated October 8th, 1898.

A.S.A.le Prince et S.S.E.E.les Ministres du Tsungli Yamen.

J'ai eu l'honneur de recevoir la note d'hier dans laquelle V.A.et V.V.E.E.m'adressent une question sur la composition des détachements qui viennent d'arriver.

Dans ma note en date du 5 courant j'ai porté à la connaissance de V.A.et V.V.E.E.la ferme décision prise par tous mes collègues de faire venir à Peking les escortes qu'ils avaient demandées pour la protection des Légations et je vous ai prié conformément au desir du Corps Diplomatique de prendre les mesures nécessaires afin qu'un train spécial fut mis à la disposition des trois premiers détachements qui devaient partir de Tientsin le 6 courant. C'est en vue de la composition de ce train que j'ai cru devoir indiquer le nombre approximatif d'hommes de chaque détachements.

Quant à la question du nombre exact d'hommes de chacune des trois nationalités qui sont arrivés hier, V.A.et V.V.E.E.n'ont qu'à s'adresser si vous le juger nécessaire et utile aux Légations que cela concerne.

Je profite etc., etc., etc.

Enclosure No. 1 in Despatch No. 81

Translation of the foregoing.

Copy of a note to the Tsungli Yamen dated October 6th.1899.

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Je profite etc., etc., etc.

Translation of the foregoing.

The Dean of the Diplomatic Corps to the Tsungli Yamen, October 8th, 1898.

To His Highness and Their Excellencies of the Tsungli Yamen.

I have had the honor to receive the note of yesterday in which Your Highness and Your Excellencies presented to me a question concerning the composition of the detachments which had arrived.

In my note of the 5th instant, I brought to the knowledge of Your Highness and Your Excellencies the firm decision taken by all my colleagues to bring to Peking the escorts which they had requested for the protection of the Legations, and I requested you in accordance with the desire of the Diplomatic Corps to take the necessary steps to have a special train placed at the disposition of the three first detachments which should leave Tientsin on the 6th instant.

It was in view of the composition of the train that I deemed it necessary to indicate the approximate number of men in each detachment.

As to the question of the exact number of men of each of the three nationalities which arrived yesterday, Your

Highness

Translation of the foregoing.

The Dean of the Diplomatic Corps to the Tsungli Yamen,

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Ect., Etc.

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Ref.:

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No. 82

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 3rd, 1898

Acted on
State and Navy Dpts
Dec. 23/98
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Mr. Conger to the Secretary of State.

Subject: State of affairs at Peking. Anti-foreign sentiment growing. Guards at the foreign Legations. Disturbances in the vicinity of Peking. Probable future of China.

No. 82

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 3rd, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

I have to report a growing uneasiness among all foreigners here as to the probable situation after navigation closes, and possible aid from the fleets is cut off. No one is willing to prophesy just what will happen; but the missionaries report an unusual anti-foreign sentiment and that a great fear of impending troubles seems to prevade the Chinese people. The Chinese Sunday School at the Methodist Mission in this city, which heretofore has had an attendance of from twelve to fifteen hundred, has suddenly dwindled to one hundred and fifty, and the patients at the foreign hospitals and attendance at the clinics, have fallen off in the same ratio.

Aside from the palace trouble, [omit which is agitating the country more and more, with occasionally an expressed hope

that

that the friends of the Emperor would rally successfully to his support,and a confident and continually reiterated conviction by the Empress Dowager's supporters,of her assured and permanent success, there has recently been disclosed a new cause for alarm. There has been a great massing of troops in the vicinity of Peking,Tientsin,Pei-tai-ho and along the railroad lines. They are undisciplined,unpaid and in one corps of about fifteen thousand,General Tung's,consisting mostly of Mohammedans from the province of Kuang-su,both officers and men openly avow their determination to drive out the foreigners with their inventions,railroads,etc.

On the 21st and 23rd ultimos they interrupted the traffic,both on the Tientsin and Pauting-fu lines,tore up some track,and at Lu-kao-chiao attacked and seriously wounded an English and Norwegian engineer.

I enclose a clipping from the Peking and Tientsin Times giving a reliable account of the affair. The matter was discussed by the Diplomatic Corpsand the Dean instructed to inquire why these disorderly troops were massed along the railways and the vicinity of places inhabited or frequented by foreigners,and to request their immediate removal.

/1

I enclose correspondence between the Dean and the Tsungli Yamen,showing that they have promised to remove them.

/3

There

There is still a feeling extant however that they may not be sent away,and some of the older diplomats believe in the possibility of conflict between them and the regular soldiers should they unwillingly and unpaid be ordered away.

The situation is considered so grave that the English Minister and the Russian Charge d'Affaires have wired their governments suggesting a joint military occupation of the entire line of railway from Peking to Shan-hai-kuan in case these troops are not withdrawn,

I have also information from Consul Ragsdale,confirmed by the older foreign residents of Tientsin,that there is more reasonable cause for fear of serious trouble there,after navigation closes,than has existed for twenty years.

There has always been a strong anti-foreign sentiment at Tientsin ~~at Tientsin~~,there is there a large disorderly and turbulent element made up of fishermen,boatmen,cartmen, etc.;the railway is now doing much of the work formerly done by them,many are idle and hungry in consequence,and many more will be when the river freezes. They have all become strengthened in their antipathy towards foreigners,and emboldened by what they believe to be the policy of the Empress Dowager.

Therefore

Therefore real and serious danger is possible. While I cannot fully share the general alarm (possibly I am too recent an arrival),yet it is neither wise nor prudent for me, a resident of only four months to set up my individual opinion against that of a majority of Diplomats,Missionaries and business men,all of long residence among these people.

I have therefore requested Captain Wildes of the Boston,to send an officer with eighteen marines and a Gatling gun to Peking as a Legation guard,and to place thirty at the Consulate at Tientsin.

I have made the best arrangements I can for them in this small compound,and they will arrive here on the 5th instant.

Consul Ragsdale is making preparations for those at Tientsin,to which place Captain Wildes informs me they will be sent as soon as the necessary preparations are made.

All of the other Legations here now have Legation guards,varying in number from eighteen to sixty-six,except the Belgians,Dutch and Spanish,the latter however is protected by the Austrian guard since the Austrian Minister is at present living at the Spanish Legation. The English, French and Germans also have strong guards at Tientsin,and the French Minister expects to place a guard of twenty men

at the

at the large Catholic mission in this city.

The political situation has not changed materially of late. The Empress Dowager is gradually refilling the offices with her friends. The Emperor's condition is about the same and all sorts of rumors are rife. Consul General Goodnow telegraphed me last night that he had apparently reliable information that Japan was starting an army of two hundred thousand men towards Peking,with which the English fleet is to co-operate from Taku. I have thought this too absurd a rumor to give it any attention.

It is generally believed that Russia would welcome any sort of disagreement with the Chinese government,disturbance or accident that would furnish an excuse to send a few thousand soldiers from Port Arthur to Peking. If this should occur,England,Germany and Japan,will also move and the division of China will be accomplished,because she is and will continue to be absolutely helpless against any and every demand made by any of the greater powers,and will yield to the inevitable without even the show of resistance.

The situation of China is indeed pitiable,but from the brief opportunity I have had to study the situation I am convinced that either of two things must happen. The foreigner must keep out and leave her to proceed alone and in the

way

at the large Catholic mission in this city.

The political situation has not changed materially of late. The Empress Dowager is gradually refilling the offices with her friends. The Emperor's condition is about the same and all sorts of rumors are rife. Consul General Goodnow telegraphed me last night that he had apparently reliable information that Japan was starting an army of two hundred thousand men towards Peking,with which the English fleet is to co-operate from Taku. I have thought this too absurd a rumor to give it any attention.

It is generally believed that Russia would welcome any sort of disagreement with the Chinese government,disturbance or accident that would furnish an excuse to send a few thousand soldiers from Port Arthur to Peking. If this should occur,England,Germany and Japan,will also move and the division of China will be accomplished,because she is and will continue to be absolutely helpless against any and every demand made by any of the greater powers,and will yield to the inevitable without even the show of resistance.

The situation of China is indeed pitiable,but from the brief opportunity I have had to study the situation I am convinced that either of two things must happen. The foreigner must keep out and leave her to proceed alone and in the

way

at the Imperial Palace in this city.

The political situation has not changed materially of late. The Emperor Yoshihito is gradually relieving the officials with her friends. The Emperor's condition is about the same and all sorts of rumors are afloat. Count Okuma [illegible] replied on last night that he had apparently reliable information that Japan was shortly to send a force of two hundred and twenty-five thousand men to Europe with the Pacific fleet to co-operate from there. I have thought this too absurd a rumor to give it any attention.

It is generally believed that Russia would welcome any sort of disagreement with the Chinese government, disturbances or accident that would furnish an excuse to send a few thousand soldiers from here. Other [illegible] it is also said that the United States, England, Germany and Japan will also have had the division of China will be accomplished, namely one is not will be [illegible] to be absolutely [illegible] and every country will by any of the powers agreed, and will yield to the inevitable without even the show of resistance.

The situation of China is indeed pitiable, but from the latest opportunity I have had to study the situation I am convinced that either of two things must happen. The Government must [illegible] or [illegible] aid in the

same way that she has for thousands of years,with her inexhaustible resources of material and trade still undeveloped; or her mines must be opened and her railways built and trade developed by foreigners. In the latter case,the most stubborn opposition will be continually met from the people which the Chinese government will be unable to promptly and satisfactorily suppress,and as a consequence the interests of the foreigners must be safe-guarded by foreign armed forces scattered through the Empire wherever large investments are made. This will eventually lead to permanent possession and control,and in that case a division of China will speedily follow.

It is true the integrity of China can easily be preserved by an alliance of a few of the great powers. But to what end? If simply to preserve the old China without possibility of material development or trade progress,then it is not worth while. But if real progress is to be made,mines opened,railways constructed,resources developed,markets created and business established,orientalism must effectually give way to occidentalism. In my judgment this is bound to occur. It may and it may not be soon,but the sooner it comes the better for China,as well as for those who seek her development and the trade which will follow.

In

In that event, we should see to it that as many doors are left open for us as possible, and we ought to be ready, either by negotiation or by actual possession, to own and control at least one good port from which we can potently assert our rights and effectively weild our influence.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

Enclosure:

1. Clipping from the Tientsin and Peking Times of October 29th, 1898.
2. The dean of the Diplomatic Corps to the Tsungli Yamen, October 27th, 1898, with translation.
3. The Tsungli Yamen to the Dean, October 29th, 1898, with translation.

Enclosure No. 1 in Despatch No. 82

French.

Outrage at Lu-kao-chiao.

An outrage occurred on foreign employees of the railway at Lu-kao-chiao on Sunday last, in reference to which we have gleaned the following facts, which we believe are correct, though many versions of the affair have been circulated. For some ten days or so, bodies of troops have been gradually concentrating round Peking. The men are Kuang-su men, who were enga.ed in putting down the Mohamedan rebellion and are much feared by the populace. Previous to last Sunday they interfered with the workmen on the railway, and on Sunday afternoon, Mr. Cox, Mr. Norregaard and some visitors from Peking were going over the new bridge at Lu-kao-chiao and Mr. Cox turned a body of about 25 soldiers off the line. Mr. Campbell of the British Legation spoke to them in Chinese and they went away quietly, with the exception of one man, whom Mr. Cox hustled a little to make him move on. The foreigners crossed the bridge, and on returning they saw that another band had collected, and when they ordered them off, one used impertinent language and demonstrated with a stone in his hand, seeing which Mr. Cox immediately proceeded to seize him. He ran among his comrades but Mr. Cox pursued him and laid hold of him, upon which the whole gang jumped on him and began to maul him with stones, which it now appeared they had concealed up their sleeves. Seeing that Mr. Cox had more to do than he could manage Mr. Norregaard rushed in among the crowd to help Mr. Cox, who by this time was streaming with blood. Mr. Norregard got his head opened, and then judging that Mr. Cox would assuredly be killed he fired a small pocket revolver which he had put in his pocket that day for the first time. On the revolver being fired the soldiers paused and then bolted. One man was thought to be hit but he did not drop there, nor did any foreigner see any man actually wounded. The foreigners rightly judged that the soldiers had gone to summon more of their comrades and to get their rifles, so they quickly got Mrs. Norregaard and child on a trolley and the whole lot of them went on to Feng-tai. They fully expected that the troops would follow, but they did not, contenting themselves with shooting one of the railway workmen, and explaining their conduct afterwards at the subsequent Chinese enquiry as due to their having mistaken *him for a foreigner*. The Chinese workmen on the railway, who would do anything for Mr. Cox, voluntarily picketted the line and main road from Feng-tai to Lu-kao-chiao and watched all night.

On the return of the Peking visitors to Peking Sir Claude took up the matter with the greatest vigour, and the whole diplomatic body gave and are giving him their undoubted and cordial support. Further outrages were made on the houses of foreigners on the Lu Han railway, and finally Mr. Kinder ordered all the foreigners on that line to come to Tientsin."

Mr. Campbell of the English Legation, and three other Euro-

Europeans

Enclosure No. 1 in Despatch No. 84

LIFE ASSURANCE CO.
CANADA.
ESTABLISHED 1847.
Montreal, Canada
Incontestable, Indisputable, Non-forfeiting
& Co. H. Horsey, M.D.

ANDARD
ITS FOR CHILDREN.
RETURNABLE IF CHILD DIES
Annual or Single Payments to secure £100
a certain Age, the Premiums being return
fore the given age is attained.
WILSON & Co.

ITSIN PRESS.
PRESS, having the largest supply and variety of Type
in N. C. Class executed at moderate
plete and Colour Printers, Bookbinders, &c.

UNION LODGE,
No. 1851.
REGULAR LODGE will be held on the
Thursday in November at the Masonic
Hall, Gordon Hill.
Visiting brethren are cordially invited.

THE YANGTSZE
INSURANCE ASSOCIATION, LIMITED.
The Undersigned
Agents for the above Association, are
prepared to accept Insurance risks at current rates.
LIDDELL BROS. & Co.

AQUARIUS
(Treble Distilled Water only used).
A PERFECT TABLE WATER.

LÉGATION D'ESPAGNE Enclosure No. 2 in Despatch No. 82

DECANAT
DU
CORPS DIPLOMATIQUE.

Pékin, le 27 octobre 1898.

A Son Altesse le PRINCE
et Leurs Excellences les MINISTRES du TSUNG-LI YAMEN,

Par la décision du Corps Diplomatique j'ai l'honneur d'exposer en résumé à VOTRE ALTESSE *et à* VOS EXCELLENCES *certains faits qui sont arrivés à sa connaissance.*

Un nombre considérable de soldats a été stationné entre Taku *et* Shang-hai-kuan, *et des corps de troupes ont été aussi placés entre Tientsin et Pékin.*

On a fait venir du voisinage de Pao-ting-fu *la division du général* Tung-fu-hsiang, *au nombre, dit-on, de 15.000 hommes, pour les camper au Parc Impérial du Sud, à trois milles de distance de la porte méridionale de la ville.*

Le 20 octobre, des soldats ont interrompu le trafic du chemin de fer à Yang-tsung, *et saisirent un wagonnet. Quand on le leur reprocha, ils jetèrent des pierres au Superintendant européen et aux employés chinois. C'était un détachement des troupes du général* Tung *en route pour* Pei-tai-ho.

Le 23 octobre, des soldats ont outragé près du pont de Lu-ku-chiao, *sur la ligne de* Pao-ting-fu, *un groupe composé de Mr. Campbell, de la Légation d'Angleterre, et trois autres européens, deux anglais et un norvégien. Un de ceux-ci se décida à saisir le meneur en juste défense, quand ils ont vu qu'ils prenaient des pierres, et alors ils furent attaqués par 40 soldats, deux des européens ayant été gravement blessés par les pierres.*

Cet outrage a été aussi commis par des soldats du général Tsung,

Mr. Campbell of the English Legation, and three other Euro-

from

Europeans

qui paraissaient n'avoir aucune discipline, et selon les dernières nouvelles ils ont enlevé une partie de la voie entre Lu-ku-chiao, *et* Pao-ting-fu, *ayant aussi coupé les fils télégraphiques. Le trafic sur cette ligne a été complètement interrompu. Ces hommes disent ouvertement qu'ils sont venus pour faire disparaître les étrangers et toutes leurs inventions, chemins de fer, etc., etc.*

Cette longue série de faits a dû provoquer une échange de vues parmi mes honorables collègues, et c'est en leur nom que j'ai l'honneur de m'adresser à Votre Altesse *et à* Vos Excellences *pour leur demander quelle est la raison que le gouvernement chinois a eue pour faire venir tant de troupes et les réunir aux environs de Pékin et à Tientsin, sur les lignes des chemins de fer et les lieux habités ou fréquentés par des étrangers.*

En attendant la réponse, le Corps Diplomatique accomplit le devoir d'avertir le Tsung-li Yamen *que cette agglomération de soldats indisciplinés, sans aucune culture, et qui, en outre, ne sont pas payés, d'après ce qui est officiellement déclaré dans la Gazette de Pékin, menace tout le monde dans leurs personnes et dans leurs biens, non seulement les étrangers, mais aussi les chinois pacifiques.*

Quant aux étrangers, ces soldats profitent de toute occasion pour les insulter grossièrement, et ils proclament à haute voix qu'ils sont venus pour chasser les « diables étrangers » et leurs inventions. On va même jusqu'à dire et faire circuler dans la capitale, que le chemin de fer de Tientsin et le télégraphe seront coupés, aussitôt que les grands froids arriveront, pour supprimer toute communication et nous isoler. Je ne dois pas cacher au Yamen *que ceci serait d'une gravité tout-à-fait exceptionnelle, et que les gouvernements étrangers ne perdraient pas de temps pour prendre les mesures nécessaires.*

C'est pour toutes ces raisons que mes honorables collègues me chargent de dire à Votre Altesse *et à* Vos Excellences *qu'ils ne peuvent pas s'expliquer quel est le but que poursuit le gouvernement chinois en amenant ces troupes, incapables de donner la moindre protection, et utiles seulement pour créer des dangers et susciter des conflits. Mes honorables collègues espèrent que* Votre Altesse *et* Vos Excellences *y réfléchiront mûrement, et ils croient qu'il serait très*

prudent d'écarter, par l'éloignement immédiat de ces troupes, l'occasion de complications qui seraient fort à regretter pour tous, mais principalement pour le gouvernement chinois

En prévenant le Yamen *à temps, le Corps Diplomatique accomplit un acte amical et il s'efforce de mettre fin à une situation anormale, qui au lieu de s'apaiser, semble devenir chaque jour plus délicate et critique.*

Je profite de cette occasion pour renouveler à Votre Altesse *et* Vos Excellences *les assurances de ma plus haute considération.*

Bernardo J. de Cólogan.

Mr. Campbell of the English Legation, and three other Euro-

from

Europeans

Translation of the foregoing.

The Dean of the Diplomatic Corps to the Tsungli Yamen, October 27th, 1898.

To His Highness and Their Excellencies of the Tsungli Yamen:

By direction of the Diplomatic Corps, I have the honor to present, as a whole, to Your Highness and Your Excellencies certain facts which have come to its knowledge.

A considerable number of soldiers have been stationed between Taku and Shang-hai-kuan, and a corps of troops have also been placed between Tientsin and Peking.

The division of General Tung-fu-hsiang numbering, it is said, fifteen thousand men, has been brought from the neighborhood of Pao-ting-fu in order to camp them in the south Imperial Park, a distance of three miles from the south gate of the city.

On the 20th of October, some soldiers interrupted the traffic of the railroad at Yang-tsung, and seized a small car. When they were repremanded, they threw stones at the European Superintendent and the Chinese employees. This was a detachment of General Tung's troops en route for Pei-tai-ho

On October 23rd some soldiers near the Lu-ku-chiao bridge on the Pao-ting-fu line attacked a party composed of Mr. Campbell of the English Legation, and three other Euro-

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Europeans

Europeans, two English and one Norwegian. One of the three in just defense attempted to seize the leader, when it was seen that they had taken up stones, and then they were attacked by forty soldiers, two of the Europeans having been seriously wounded by the stones.

This outrage was also committed by the soldiers of General Tung, who seem to have no discipline, and according to the last news, they had torn up a part of the track between Lu-ku-chiao, and Pao-ting-fu, having also cut the telegraph lines.

The traffic on that line has been completely stopped. These men say openly that they come to drive out the foreigners and all their inventions, railroads, etc.

This long series of facts has caused an exchange of views among my colleagues, and it is in their name that I have the honor to address Your Highness and Your Excellencies to ask what is the reason which the Chinese government has for bringing so many troops and massing them in the environs of Peking and at Tientsin, along the lines of railways and the places inhabited or frequented by foreigners.

In awaiting a reply the Diplomatic Corps performs its duty by notifying the Tsungli Yamen that this agglomeration of undisciplined soldiers, with no culture, and who besides

from

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from

from what is officially declared in the Peking Gazette are unpaid, threatens everybody in their person and in their property, not only foreigners, but the peaceful Chinese also.

As to the foreigners, these soldiers improve every occasion to grossly insult them and they proclaim in a high voice that they are going to drive away the "foreign devils", and their inventions. They even go as far as to say and to circulate it in the capital, that the railroad and telegraph lines to Tientsin will be cut as soon as very cold weather comes, in order to stop all communication and isolate us.

I ought not to conceal from the Yamen that this would be of such altogether exceptional gravity that the foreign governments would lose no time in taking necessary measures.

It is for all these reasons that my honorable colleagues charge me to say to Your Highness and Your Excellencies that they cannot understand what purpose the Chinese government pursues in bringing these troops, incapable of affording the least protection and useful only to create danger and incite conflicts.

My honorable colleagues hope that Your Highness and Your Excellencies will carefully consider this, and they believe it will be very prudent to remove, by the immediate

taking

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My honorable colleagues hope that Your Highness and Your Excellencies will carefully consider this, and they believe it will be very prudent to remove, by the immediate taking

taking away of these troops, the opportunity for complications, which would be greatly regretted by all, but especially by the Chinese Government.

In warning the Yamen in time the Diplomatic Corps performs a friendly act and endeavors to put an end to an abnormal situation which, instead of abating, seems to become each day more delicate and critical.

I improve the occasion to renew etc, etc.

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tions, which would be greatly regretted by all, but especially

by the Chinese Government.

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normal situation which, instead of abating, seems to become

each day more delicate and critical.

I improve the occasion to renew etc, etc.

Enclosure No.3 in Despatch No.82

Copy of note of Tsungli Yamen to the Doyen of the Diplomatic Corps, October 29th, 1898.

Le Yamen a S.E.M.de Cólogan, Ministre d'Espagne et Doyen du Corps Diplomatique.

Le Yamen accuse réception de la note de V.E.en date du 27 courant.

(suit un abrégé de la note.)

Le Yamen fait remarquer que les troupes du Kansu avaient été appelées pour camper provisoirment dans le Nan-yuan et pour être passées en revue. Mais (chose qu'on n'aurait pas pensée) ces troupes à peine arrivées ici, ont manqué à la discipline et ont produit des troubles également gênants pour la libre circulation des indigènes et des étrangers.

Si on laissait ces soldats longtemps aux alentours de Pékin, il y aurait vraiment beaucoup d'inconvénients.

Nous avons eu à ce propos une conférence avec Jung-lu nous nous proposons d'envoyer bientôt ces troupes ailleurs, pour éviter des désordres.

Nous écrivons exprès pour prier d'abord V.E.de vouloir bien communiquer (cela) à ses collègues, pour les rassurer.

Traduit par S.Vitale.

Enclosure No.3 in Despatch No.854

Copy of note of Tsungli Yamen to the Doyen of the Diplomatic Corps, October 29th, 1898.

Le Yamen a S.E.M. de Gelders, Ministre d'Espagne et Doyen du Corps Diplomatique.

Le Yamen accuse réception de la note de V.E. en date du 27 courant.

(Suit un abrégé de la note.)

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Nous écrivons exprès pour prier d'abord V.E. de vouloir bien communiquer (cela) à ses collègues, pour les rassurer.

Traduit par S.Vitale.

Translation of the foregoing.

The Tsungli Yamen to His Excellency, M.de Cologan, Spanish Minister and Dean of the Diplomatic Corps.

The Yamen acknowledges receipt of the note of Your Excellency of the 27th instant:

(here follows an abridgment of the note.)

The Yamen has to say that the troops from Kansu were called to camp temporarily in Nan-Yaun in ordered to be reviewed. But (a thing which cannot have been expected) these troops scarcely arrived, have failed in discipline and have produced trouble equally obstructing the free circulation of natives and foreigners.

If these soldiers should be left for a long time in the neighborhood of Peking there would truly be much difficulty.

We have had concerning this, a conference with Jung-lu and we propose at once to send these troops elsewhere in order to avoid disturbances.

We write expressly to ask Your Excellency to be kind enough to forthwith communicate this to your colleagues in order to reassure them.

ORANGES

No. 83.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 4th, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Acknowledging receipt of Department's instructions No. 21 to No. 49 inclusive, and Circulars dated September 19th, 29th, and 30th, 1898.

(Legation despatch No. 55, of October 1st, 1898.)

No. 83

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 4th,1898..

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

Referring to my despatch No.55,of October 1st last,- I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Department's instructions No.21 to No.49 inclusive,and Circulars dated September 19th,29th and 30th,1898,

and to be,Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

China

17

TELEGRAM RECEIVED.

2d Asst

NOV-5,12.37 P.M.

CHF. CLKS. OFFICE

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
Answered - Yes.
Bureau of Accts will note and charge against unforseen emergencies
NOV 5 1898 pmd. aak

From Peking

Nov 5 1898.

Received 12.31 P M.

Hay, Confirm.

Washington.

Guard at Tientsin necessary

Can I contract quarters

and fuel not exceeding

five hundred dollars

Conger

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.

DIPLOMATIC
NOV 7 1898
BUREAU.

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D.
7 NOV 1898
DEPT. OF STATE

TELEGRAM RECEIVED. CABLE WU.GI.WA.IG,

From PEKING,

Nov. 6, 1898.

Received 10:45 PM.

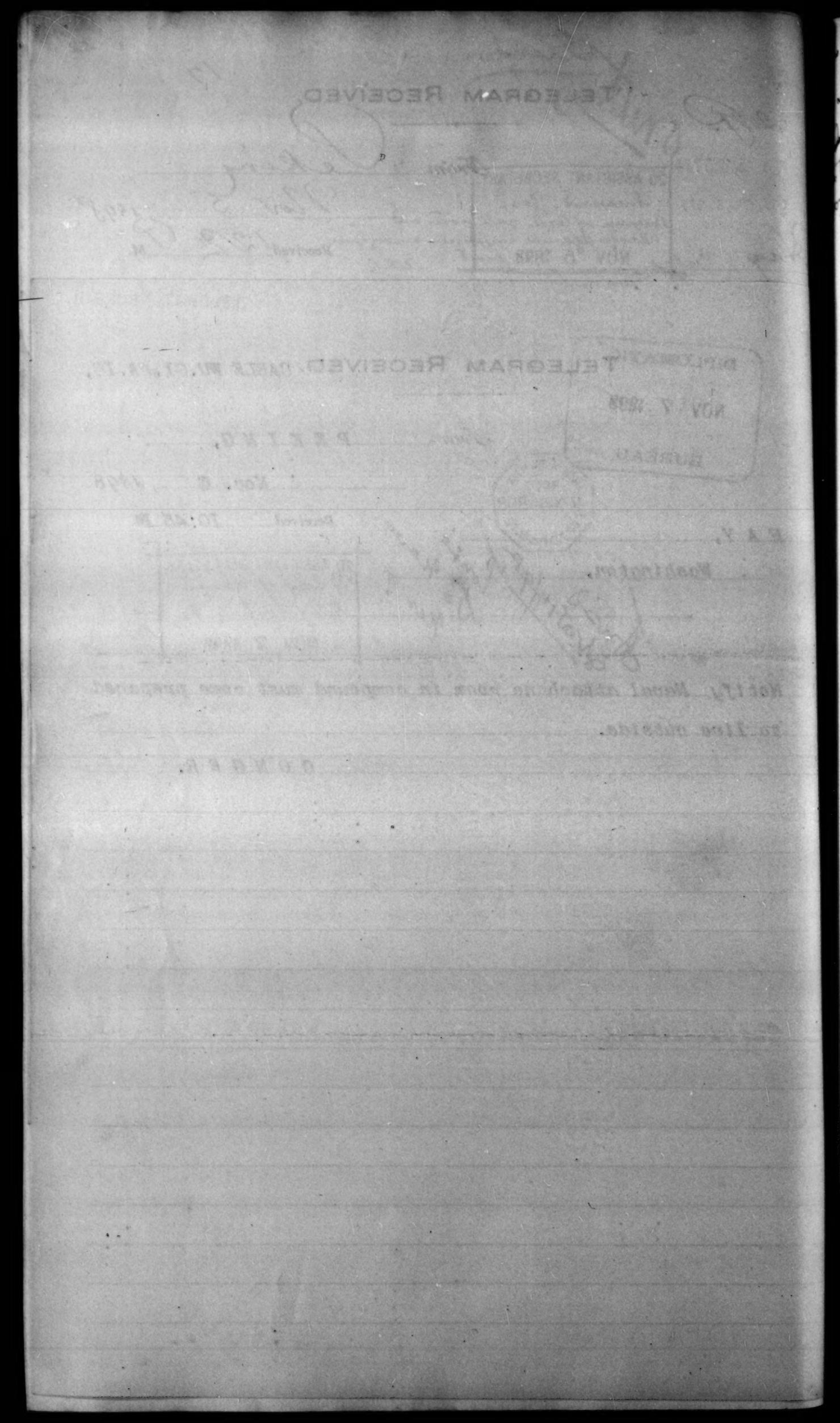
HAY,

Washington.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
To Secy of Navy.
Ack + confirm by mail.
NOV 7 1898

Notify Naval attaché no room in compound must come prepared to live outside.

CONGER.



China

No. 262.
Dupuy
To President
Nov. 6. 4 p.m.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

DIPLOMATIC, NOV 8 1898 BUREAU.

20 ASSISTANT SECRETARY'S BUREAU NOV 5 1898

INDEMNITY, RECD. 7 NOV 898 DEPT. OF STATE

From U.S. Legation in China.

Peking, November 6, 1898.

(Rec'd 6th, 3:25 p.m.)

COPIED. FOREIGN RELATIONS.

HAY,

Washington.

Informal note to Chinese Min. Nov 7.

Confirm. ably D. of P. Nov. 11

The concentration of large body of troops from Kansu, without any discipline, in vicinity of Peking and railroad to Tien-tsin threatens grave danger to all foreigners. October 29 Chinese Government promised to remove the objectionable corps. This not yet done. Diplomatic corps to-day notified Foreign Office if not removed by November 15th the foreign powers must devise measures to guarantee security for foreigners, travel and telegraph. It is generally believed they will be removed; but if not, Russia, Japan and England will probably place troops all along railroad from Peking to Shanghai-Kuan. Have you instructions for me?

CONGER.

Deciphered by A. A. Adee.

Nov. 6th, 1898. 4:00 p.m. 189 M.

No. 84

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 6th, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Adhesion of the Dominican Republic to the Universal Postal Convention signed at Washington on June 15th, 1897. Chinese Government notified.

(Instructions without number, dated September 29th, 1898.)

No. 84

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 6th,1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

Complying with the Department's instructions,without number,dated September 29th last,-I have the honor to report that I have today notified the Chinese Government of adhesion of the Dominican Republic to the Universal Postal Convention signed at Washington on June 15th,1897,as provided for in Article IV of the Final Protocol.

I have the honor to be,Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

No. 85

File

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 7th, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Hsu-ching-chen appointed to the Tsungli Yamen.

No. 85

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 7th, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

I have the honor to report the appointment of Hsu-ching-chen, Vice President of the Board of Works, to the Tsungli Yamen.

His Excellency has but recently returned from Berlin where he had represented his Government at the German Court.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

No. 86

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 7th, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Confirming Legation's telegram of the 4th and the Department's reply thereto of the 5th instant. Authority to contract for quarters and fuel for marine guard at Tientsin.

T. M.

No. 86

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 7th,1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

Confirming,on the overleaf,my telegram and the Department's reply,of the 4th and 5th instants,-I have the honor to report that I have instructed Consul Ragsdale to contract quarters and fuel,near to his Consulate,for thirty thirty marines for five months,at a cost not exceeding five hundred dollars gold,and to draw on Department of State,account "Emergency Fund" for amounts as they must be paid,notifying the Department in advance of his draft,and citing in each case my telegraphic authority from Department of State of November 5th,1898.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

(0)

TELEGRAM SENT.

PEKING, NOVEMBER 4TH, 1898.

HAY,

WASHINGTON.

GUARD AT TIENTSIN NECESSARY. CAN I CONTRACT

QUARTERS AND FUEL NOT EXCEEDING FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS GOLD?

(SIGNED.) CONGER.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED.

WASHINGTON, NOVEMBER 5TH, 1898.

CONGER,

PEKING.

YES. CHARGING UNFORESEEN EMERGENCY FUND.

(SIGNED.) HAY.

No. 87

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 8th, 1898.

Mar. 2/99
C.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Case of E.D.Chapin, a missionary who was driven from his labors in June by a mob at Hong-Kiang in Hunan.

(Legation's Despatches Nos.34 and 35, of September 1st and 5th, 1898; and Department's Instruction's No.36 of September 19, 1898.)

No. 87

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 8th,1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

Acknowledging receipt of Department's instruction No.36,of September 19th,concerning the case of E.D.Chapin, a missionary,who in June last was driven from his labors by a mob at Hong-Kiang in Hu-Nan,-I beg to call your attention to my despatches Nos.34 and 35,of September 1st and 5th respect ively,from which it will appear that the Tsungli Yamen had instructed the local officials to furnish Mr. Chapin necessary protection,escort him back to Hong-Kiang and and give him every assistance in the purchase of property there.

If there shall be any failure in carrying out the instructions of the Tsungli Yamen,I will renew my demand as soon

soon as such information reaches me.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

No. 88

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Jan. 10/99

Peking, China, November 8th, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Case of robbery of Rev. William Lagerquist while proceeding up the Han river three years ago. The Chinese Government has directed the amount of the loss to be paid.

(Instructions No. 29, of September 8th, 1898.)

See Mr. Conger's No. 193, of April 20, 1899, correcting this statement.

No. 88

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 8th,1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

Complying with Department's instructions No.29,September 8th,1898in the case of the robbery of Rev.William Lagerquist while proceeding up the Han river about three years ago,-I immediately presented the matter to the Tsungli Yamen demanding payment of the value of the property stolen,and have the honor to report that I have today received reply[that orders have been given to the local officials to pay the full amount of 361.75 taels.]

Incor. Corrected Mr. Conger's No. 193, of July 20, 1899.

I enclose copies of the correspondence in the case.

I have the honor to be,Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

Enclosures:

1. Mr.Conger to Tsungli Yamen,October 28th,1898.
2. Tsungli Yamen to Mr.Conger,November 4th,1898.
3. Mr.Conger to Tsungli Yamen,November 8th,1898.

Enclosure / in despatch No. 88

F.O.No.30

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,

Peking, October 28th, 1898.

The Undersigned, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America, has the honor to report to Your Highnesses and Your Excellencies of the Tsungli Yamen, that on the 22nd of November,1898, the Rev.William Lagerquist and his wife, citizens of the United States, were robbed of all their personal property while proceeding up the Han river on a house boat to Shansi,where they were stationed as missionaries,and notwithstanding repeated requests have been made of the local officials by the United States Consul for the punishment of the robbers and the restoration of the property,yet their respectful requests have been continually ignored by the Taotai, and nearly three years have passed with nothing accomplished and apparently no effort made in that direction.

It is probably too late now to find the culprits, but in order that an example may be made ,and the local officials given to understand that such grave matters cannot be thus lightly treated or ignored and that the missionaries must be protected by them and future trouble avoided,the Undersigned is instructed by his government to request that immediate recompense be made to Mr. Lagerquist for his loss and the case be thus definitely settled.

A copy of MR.Lagerquist's sworn statement giving details of the robbery and an inventory of the property taken,

are

To

His Highness,Prince Ching,

and Their Excellencies of the Tsungli Yamen

etc. etc. etc.

are enclosed . The amount (361.80 Hankow taels) is small, but the demand is a reasonable one and Your Highness and Your Excellencies will readily recognize the importance of giving such effective instructions as will insure the prompt and satisfactory settlement of the case.

The Undersigned will thank Your Highness and Your Excellencies for an early reply and avails himself of this occasion to renew the assurance of his highest consideration.

(Signed) E. H. Conger.

Enclosure 2 in despatch No. 88

THE TSUNGLI YAMEN TO MR. CONGER.

Erroneous translation. See Mr. Conger's No. 193, dated April 20/99

No.22. Peking, November4th, 1898.

Your Excellency:-

On the 30th ultimo the Prince and Ministers had the honor to receive Your Excellency's communication wherein you state that the Rev.William Lagerquist and his wife were robbed of all their personal property while proceeding up the Han river on a house boat to Shansi where they were stationed as missionaries; that repeated requests have been made of the local officials for the punishment of the robbers and the restoration of the property and nearly three years have passed with nothing accomplished.

The Yamen has investigated this case and now consider it too late to find the robbers, but the local officials treated the matter lightly, without making any effort to settle the case and must be punished to serve as a warning to others.

According to the request received from your Government the local authorities have been instructed to pay in full the 361.75 taels that it may serve as a warning to negligent officials. In addition a communication has been sent to the Viceroy of Hukuang to examine into and deal accordingly with the case.

A necessary communication for Your Excellency's information.

Enclosure 3 in despatch No. 88

F.O.No.33.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,

Peking, November 8th, 1898.

The Undersigned, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America, has the honor to acknowledge receipt of the note of Your Highness and Your Excellencies of the 4th instant, concerning the case of Rev. William Lagerquist, who was robbed while proceeding up the Han river, and to express his thanks for the very prompt and satisfactory settlement made, which he has instructed the United States Consul at Hankow to attend to.

He is sure this will serve as a salutary warning to local officials.

The Undersigned avails himself of this occasion to assure Your Highness and Your Excellencies of his highest consideration.

(Signed) E. H. Conger.

To His Highness Prince Ching,

and Their Excellencies of the Tsungli Yamen,

etc. etc. etc.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.

Form No. 3.

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INCORPORATED

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NUMBER	SENT BY	RECD BY	No. OF WORDS.	FROM
143	John.	C Perkins		

RECEIVED at

Dept. of St. Nov 11 1898

Day Washington (DC)

Marine guard here Conger

No. 89

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 9th, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Department's instructions No. 30, September 13th, 1898, enclosing copy of lease of Legation premises received.

No. 89

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 9th, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C .

Sir:-

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Department's instruction No.30, of September 13, 1898, enclosing a copy of the lease of the Legation premises, recently signed at Washington, for the files of this office.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

No. 90

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 9th, 1898.

One copy of enclosure mailed to Gray Ref. and one copy to Library of Congress Jan 4/99 C.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Transmitting under separate cover two copies of the Imperial Maritime Customs Gazette, Medical Reports for the half-year ending March 31st, 1898.

(No. 90

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 9th, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

I have the honor to transmit, under separate cover, for the information of the Department, two copies of the Imperial Maritime Customs Gazette, No.2, Special Series, Medical Reports for the half-year ending 31st March, 1898, published by order of the Inspector General of Customs.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

No. 91

Ack. by author

Dec. 30 1898

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 10th, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Confirming Legation's telegram of the 8th instant. Arrival of marine guard at Peking. Correspondence with Chinese Government.

No. 91

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 10th, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D .C .

Sir:-

Confirming, on the overleaf, my telegram of November 8th last,-I have the honor to report the arrival here on 5th instant, from the United States Cruiser "Boston", Lieutenant R.M.Dutton, eighteen well armed marines and a Gatling gun.

I had previously notified the Tsungli Yamen of their coming and requested train accommodations from Tientsin, and a military escort from the station to the Legation, which were duly and courteously furnished as had been done upon the arrival of the other Legation guards.

I enclose a copy of my note to the Tsungli Yamen and a translation of its reply.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

Enclosures:

Enclosures:

1. Mr.Conger to the Tsungli Yamen,November 3rd,1898.

2. The Tsungli Yamen to Mr.Conger,November 8th,1898.

Enclosure 1 in despatch No. 91

F.O.No.31.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,

Peking, November 3rd, 1898.

The Undersigned, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America, has the honor to inform Your Highness and Your Excellencies of the Tsungli Yamen, that he is bringing to Peking a Legation escort of twenty men.

They will be ready to leave Tientsin very early Saturday morning, the 5th instant; he therefore respectfully requests that Your Highness and Your Excellencies will kindly have arranged for them such train accommodations, and provide such military escort as has so courteously been done for the guards which his colleagues have already brought to their Legations.

The Undersigned avails himself of the occasion to assure Your Highness and Your Excellencies of his highest consideration.

(Signed) E. H. Conger.

To

His Highness, Prince Ching,

and Their Excellencies of the Tsungli Yamen,

etc. etc. etc.

Enclosure 2 in despatch No. 91

THE TSUNGLI YAMEN TO MR. CONGER.

No.24. Peking, November 8th, 1898.

Your Excellency:-

The Yamen has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's communication of the 3rd instant, wherein you stated that you were bringing to Peking a Legation escort of twenty men; that they would be ready to leave Tientsin in the morning of the 5th instant and you therefore requested that the Yamen have arranged for them such train accommodation, and provide such military escort as has been done for the guards of the other Legations.

Upon receipt of Your Excellency's communication the Yamen telegraphed, on the 4th instant, to the Superintendent of Northern Trade to instruct his subordinates to take proper care and the Governor of Peking was also instructed to have suitable train accommodations furnished the escort.

A necessary reply to Your Excellency's communication.

No. 92

Copy

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 10th, 1898.

See Dispr. 76 to Navy. Sept.
" 75 " "

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Telegram sent to Navy Dept Dec 24/98

Subject: Confirming Legation's telegram of the 6th instant.

No quarters in compound for accommodation of new

Naval Attaché.

No. 92

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 10th, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Department's instructions No.42, of September 21st last, and to say that the Chinese Government shall be duly advised of appointment of Lieutenant Albert L.Key, United States Navy, as Naval Attaché of this Legation.

I also confirm, on the overleaf, my telegram of the 6th instant, which was sent with the hope that it might possibly acquaint him with the situation here and thus enable him to make some arrangement before he left home preparatory to living outside the Legation compound.

The existing accommodations are quite inadequate for the present members of the Legation and their families.

I have been obliged to turn over apart of the Minister's house

house as quarters for the marines.

Lieutenant Key, can however with some trouble and expense rent fairly comfortable quarters outside.

I am pleased with his designation and shall welcome him to his new post.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. A. Logan

TELEGRAM SENT.

PEKING, NOVEMBER 6TH,1898.

HAY,

WASHINGTON.

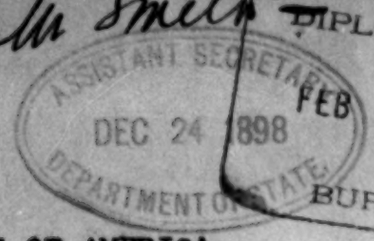
NOTIFY NAVAL ATTACHE NO ROOM IN COMPOUND

MUST COME PREPARED TO LIVE OUTSIDE.

(SIGNED.) CONGER.

Mr Chilton
Mr Smith

No. 93



DIPLOMATIC,
FEB 1 1899
BUREAU.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 11th, 1898.

Ans Sec. 3199 c
copies to Chefoo & Tientsin
Jan. 31. 99.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Transfer of the missionaries living in western Shangtung from the jurisdiction of the Chefoo Consul to that of the Tientsin Consul.

(Instructions No. 35, September 17th, 1898.)

No. 93

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 11th, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of Department's instructions No.35 of September 17th last, relative to the protest of the missionaries at Pang Ching and Lin Ching, against their transfer from the jurisdiction of the Consul at Tientsin to that of the Consul at Chefoo, and to report upon the three points required therein, to wit:

1. As the Consul at Tientsin is not commissioned for any particular province and as, presumably, the terms of his exequatur agree with those of his commission, is there any special force in Mr. Read's argument that the Consul at Tientsin cannot communicate directly with any Chnese officials who are nearer to him than to any other American Consul, irrespective of provincial bounderies?

2. If you find that his argument is in accordance with

with generally accepted custom,can you not cause special instructions to be sent from Peking to the officials of Shantung directing them to recognize the jurisdiction of the Consul at Tientsin over the missions referred to?

3. If this cannot be effected,would it not be entirely satisfactory to leave the missionaries,as they have always been heretofore,under the jurisdiction of the Consul at Tientsin,directing him,if he should at any time find it absolutely necessary to communicate indirectly with any official in Shantung,to seek the co-operation of his colleague at Chefoo instead of asking of the Viceroy of Tientsin a service whivh the latter may have an apparently valid excuse for treating with reluctance and indifference?

As to the first: There is no force whatever in Mr. Read's argument,-I can find nothing in our treaties or elsewherethat would prohibit a Consul from communicating in a proper manner with any provincial official anywhere in China. Even the judicial authority of Consuls is not prescribed by provincial lines,but that of the Consul at Tientsin,I apprehend,would be recognized at the very missions mentioned in Shantung.

But if the jurisdiction of the Consul at Tientsin was limited to the bounderies of the province of Chihli,in that

case

case,on an appeal to him for aid from missionaries in Shantung,he could communicate directly with the Viceroy of Chihli who is also Minister Superintendent of Northern Trade and by virtue of this office can direct the Governor of Shantung and not be placed"in the somewhat embarrassing position "of asking a favor of an official of inferior rank"as Mr. Reid says.

His Excellency Li Hung Chang informs me that when he was Viceroy of Chihli he used to telegraph to the Shantung authorities on foreign questions presented to him by the TientsinConsuls,by virtue of his general control as Minister Superintendent.

But in addition to this and as,in part,answering the second point,His Excellency further says,the Tsungli Yamen may be notified that these missionaries in western Shantung are placed under the control of the Tientsin Consul,who will in future cases report directly to the Minister Superintendent at Tientsin asking him to telegraph the Shantung authorities. Upon such notice being given by this Legation,the Tsungli Yamen can instruct both the Minister Superintendent and the Governor of Shantung to act accordingly.

As to the third point,I can see no reason why a Consul in one province should not at any time,if found necessary

or

or convenient, seek the co-operation of his colleague at any other place in China.

I shall await your instructions before communication further with either the Consuls or missionaries.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

No. 94

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 12th, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Books for the use of the Legation received.

(Despatch No. 7, July 15th, 1898, and Instruction No. 44, September 21st, 1898.)

No. 94

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 12th, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

Referring to my despatch No.7, of July 15th, and the Department's reply thereto, No.44 of the following September 21st, 1898,-I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the books requested for the use of this Legation, a list of which is appended on the overleaf, and also to express my thanks for the same.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

LIST OF BOOKS.

United States Supreme Court Reports from Vol.140 to 170 inclusive.

Law of Naturalization. Webster.

Foster's Federal Procedure. 2 Vols.

Century Dictionary. 12 Vols.

The Scribner-Black Atlas of the World.

No. 95

Confidential

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 17th, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Confirming Legation's telegrams of the 6th and 17th instants. Concentration of large body of disorderly troops in the vicinity of Peking and along the lines of railroad. Foreign representatives demand their withdrawal before November 15th, which has finally been agreed to by the Chinese Government, and their removal commenced on the 15th instant. Copies of correspondence between the Diplomatic Corps and the Foreign Office.

No. 95

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 17th, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to confirm, on the overleaf, my telegrams of the 6th and 17th instants respectively, and to enclose copies of further correspondence between the Diplomatic Corps and the Tsungli Yamen, concerning the removal of the Kanshu troops from this vicinity and that of the railroad lines.

If the promise of the Tsungli Yamen to remove the troops is faithfully carried out, and it is believed it will be, (five divisions having already started) I consider the demand of the Diplomatic Corps so substantially complied with as to practically close the incident, although the correspondence leaves it in such a shape, that it may be taken up again, if the contingency arises.

I should inform the Department confidentially that the

Russians

Russians and Japanese have been quite anxious for such a termination of this affair as would permit them to place considerable numbers of troops along the lines of railroad.

The Japanese Minister told me that they could land three thousand within ten days, and fifty thousand very soon thereafter.

The Russians could have brought five or six thousand from Port Arthur, the English probably five hundred from their ships and from Wei-hei-wei, and the French and Germans each a small number of marines.

All believed grave danger possible if the Kanshu soldiers should remain in the vicinity, but all likewise believed they would be removed as demanded.

With these lawless troops out of the way, and with the extra precautions which the action of the foreign representatives has inspired the Chinese Government to take, it is hoped that for the present further trouble will be avoided.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

Enclosures:

TELEGRAMS SENT.

PEKING,NOVEMBER 6TH,1898.

HAY,

WASHINGTON.

THE CONCENTRATION OF LARGE BODY OF TROOPS FROM KANSHU WITHOUT ANY DISCIPLINE IN VICINITY OF PEKING AND RAILROAD TO TIENTSIN THREATENS GRAVE DANGER TO ALL FOREIGNERS. OCTOBER 29TH CHINESE GOVERNMENT PROMISED TO REMOVE THE OBJECTIONABLE CORPS. THIS NOT YET DONE. DIPLOMATIC CORPS NOTIFIED FOREIGN OFFICE IF NOT REMOVED BY NOVEMBER 15TH THE FOREIGN POWERS MUST DEVISE MEASURES TO GUARANTEE SECURITY FOR FOREIGNERS,TRAVEL AND TELEGRAPH. IT IS GENERALLY BELIEVED THEY WILL BE REMOVED,BUT IF NOT RUSSIA,JAPAN AND ENGLAND WILL POBABLY PLACE TROOPS ALL ALONG RAILROAD FROM PEKING TO SHAN-HAI-KUAN. HAVE YOU INSTRUCTIONS FOR ME.

(SIGNED.) CONGER.

PEKING,NOVEMBER 17TH,1898.

HAY,

WASHINGTON.

KANSHU TROOPS ARE BEING REMOVED.

(SIGNED.) CONGER.

Enclosures:

1. The Yamen to the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps, November 14th, 1898, together with translation.

2. The Dean of the Diplomatic Corps to the Yamen, November 16th, 1898, together with translation.

LÉGATION D'ESPAGNE

DÉCANAT
DU
CORPS DIPLOMATIQUE.

Enclosure No. 1 in Despatch No. 95

Pékin, le 14 Novembre 1898.

Le YAMEN à S. Exc. M. DE CÓLOGAN,
Ministre d'Espagne et Doyen du Corps Diplomatique.

Le Yamen a reçu, le 6 Novembre, la Note de V. EXC., *laquelle lui demandait de tenir sans retard la parole donnée sur l'éloignement des troupes du Kang-su à une autre destination. Le 9 Novembre, le Yamen répondait en exposant les raisons de l'impossibilité d'un départ immédiat. Le 11 Novembre, le Yamen a reçu une autre note dans laquelle il était dit: J'ai porté le contenu de votre Note à la connaissance de tous les Représentants étrangers, et ils attendront un Édit Impérial, mais je dois rappeler à* V. A. *et à* VV. EE. *le contenu de ma Note du 6 courant, etc., etc.*

Le Yamen fait observer que les troupes du Kang-su envoyées au Nan-yüan ont été déjà passées en revue le 10 par moi, Prince, en obéissance d'un Décret Impérial. Le 11 j'en ai référé au Trône et j'ai reçu un ordre Souverain dans ces termes: J'ordonne que les troupes ne se reposent pas plusieurs jours, et qu'elles se rendent bientôt à leur place de cantonnement, etc.

A présent on a déjà fixé que ces troupes partent successivement à commencer du 15 ou 16 courant, jusqu'à ce qu'elles soient toutes éloignées. Ces troupes ont été destinées à l'ouest de Chi-chow, pour être cantonnées le long des montagnes.

Quoiqu'elles ne soient pas sorties du territoire du Chih-li, elles seront cependant très loin du chemin de fer et certainement nous pouvons assurer que dorénavant il n'y aura pas de difficultés pour la circulation des fonctionnaires et des marchands qui voyagent par le

chemin de fer. Le Yamen pense que les Répresentants étrangers, en considérations des bonnes relations, pourront certainement se rendre compte de cette idée.

Nous sommes tenus à informer VOTRE EXCELLENCE *de ce qui précède, vous priant de le communiquer à tous les Représentants étrangers.*

Traduit par l'Interprète de la Légation d'Italie,
Faisant fonctions d'Interprète de la Légation d'Espagne :

G. VITALE.

Translation of the foregoing.

Peking, November 14th,1898.

The Yamen to His Excellency,M.de Colegan,Spanish Minister and Dean of the Diplomatic Corps.

The Yamen received,the 6th of November,the note of Your Excellency,which requested it to keep without delay the promises given concerning the removal of the Kang-su troops to another destination.

On the 9th of November the Yamen replied setting forth the reasons of the impossibility of an immediate departure.

November 11th the Yamen received another letter in which it was said "I have brought the contents of your note to the "knowledge of all the foreign representatives,and they await "an Imperial Edict,but I ought to remind Your Highness and "Your Excellencies of the contents of my note of the 6th in- "stant,etc.,etc."

The Yamen observes that the Kang-su troops sent to Nan-Yuan have been already reviewed by me,Prince,on the 10th instant in obedience to an Imperial Decree.

On the 11th I referred the matter to the Throne and I have received a Sovereign order in the following terms.

"I order that the troops rest a few days and then re- pair immediately to their place of encampment,etc.,etc."

At

Translation of the foregoing.

Peking, November 14th, 1899.

The Yamen to His Excellency, M. de Colegan, Spanish Min-
ister and Dean of the Diplomatic Corps.

The Yamen received, the 6th of November, the note of
Your Excellency, which requested it to keep without delay
the promises given concerning the removal of the Kang-su
troops to another destination.

On the 9th of November the Yamen replied setting forth
the reasons of the impossibility of an immediate departure.
November 11th the Yamen received another letter in which
it was said "I have brought the contents of your note to the
knowledge of all the foreign representative, and they await
"an Imperial Edict, but I ought to remind Your Highness and
"Your Excellencies of the contents of my note of the 6th in-
stant, etc., etc."

The Yamen observes that the Kang-su troops sent to
Han-Yuan have been already reviewed by me, Prince, on the 10th
instant in obedience to an Imperial Decree.

On the 11th I referred the matter to the Throne and I
have received a Sovereign order in the following terms.

"I order that the troops rest a few days and then re-
pair immediately to their place of encampment, etc., etc."

At

At present it is already arranged that these troops dep depart successively,to begin on the 15th or 16th instant, until they shall be removed.These troops have been destined for the west of Chi-chow,in order to be encamped along the mountains. Although they may not go outside the territory Chihli,they however will be very far from the railroad,and certainly we can assure you that henceforth there will be difficulty in the movements of officials or merchants who travel on the railroad. The Yamen thinks that the foreign representatives,in consideration of good relations,can certainly agree to this plan.

We are obliged to inform Your Excellency of the foregoing,begging you to communicate it to all the foreign repressntatives.

At present it is already arranged that these troops depart successively,to begin on the 15th or 16th instant, until they shall be removed.These troops have been destined for the west of Chi-anow,in order to be encamped along the mountains. Although they may not go outside the territory Chihli,they however will be very far from the railroad,and certainly we can assure you that henceforth there will be difficulty in the movements of officials or merchants who travel on the railroad. The Yamen thinks that the foreign representatives,in consideration of good relations,can certainly agree to this plan.

We are obliged to inform Your Excellency of the foregoing,begging you to communicate it to all the foreign representatives.

Enclosure No. 2 in Despatch No. 95

LÉGATION D'ESPAGNE

DÉCANAT
DU
CORPS DIPLOMATIQUE.

Pékin, le 16 Novembre 1898.

A Son Altesse le PRINCE
et Leurs Excellences les MINISTRES du TSUNGLI YAMEN.

J'ai eu l'honneur de recevoir et de communiquer à mes honorables Collègues, la Note que le Yamen m'a envoyée avant-hier en réponse à celle que je lui ai adressée le 11 Novembre, à propos de l'éloignement des troupes du Kang-su.

Le Corps Diplomatique constate que cette communication, inspirée par le désir de mettre un terme aux difficultés qui se sont produites, ne lui donne cependant qu'une satisfaction incomplète. Il en résulte en effet que, contrairement à l'une des demandes qui avaient été formulées, les troupes du Kang-su ne sortiront pas immédiatement de la province du Chih-li.

Dans ces conditions et tout en prenant acte des promesses et des sécurités données par VOTRE ALTESSE *et* VOS EXCELLENCES, *mes honorables Collègues ont pensé qu'ils ne pouvaient qu'en référer à leurs Gouvernements, auxquels il appartient d'apprécier les déclarations contenues dans la Note.*

Le Corps Diplomatique ne doute pas que les mesures annoncées seront exécutées entièrement et sans délai; et dans tous les cas, il croit devoir faire dès à présent toutes réserves sur les incidents qui pourraient survenir, au point de vue de la tranquillité publique, par suite de l'éloignement actuellement insuffisant de ces troupes.

Je profite de l'occasion pour renouveler à VOTRE ALTESSE *et à* VOS EXCELLENCES *les assurances de ma plus haute considération.*

BERNARDO J. DE CÓLOGAN.

every reservation upon the incidents which may happen, in

Translation of the foregoing.

Peking, November 16th, 1898.

To His Highness, the Prince and Their Excellencies of the Tsungli Yamen.

I have had the honor to receive and to communicate to my honorable colleagues the note which the Yamen sent me day before yesterday in reply to that which I addressed them on the 11th of November concerning the removal of the Kang-su troops.

The Diplomatic Corps notes that this communication, inspired by a desire to put an end to the difficulties which have arisen, gives it however, only incomplete satisfaction.

The result of it, is in fact, that contrary to the one of the requests which was made, the Kang-su troops will not immediately go outside the province of Chihli.

Under these circumstances, and taking as a whole the promises and assurances given by Your Highness and Your Excellencies, my honorable colleagues have concluded that they can only refer it to their Governments, to whom it belongs, to weigh the declarations contained in the note.

The Diplomatic Corps does not doubt that the measures named will be entirely carried out, and without delay; and in any case, it believes it ought to make from this time forward every reservation upon the incidents which may happen, in

(6)

Translation of the foregoing.

Peking,November 16th,1898.

To His Highness,the Princes and Their Excellencies of the Tsungli Yamen.

I have had the honor to receive and to communicate to my honorable colleagues the note which the Yamen sent me day before yesterday in reply to that which (5) addressed them on the 11th of November concerning the removal of the Kang-su troops.

The Diplomatic Corps notes that this communication,inspired by a desire to put an end to the difficulties which have arisen,gives it however,only incomplete satisfaction.

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Under these circumstances,and taking as a whole the promises and assurances given by Your Highness and Your Excellencies,my honorable colleagues have concluded that they can only refer it to their Governments,to whom it belongs,to weigh the declarations contained in the note.

The Diplomatic Corps does not doubt that the measures named will be entirely carried out,and without delay;and in any case,it believes it ought to make from this time forward every reservation upon the incidents which may happen,in

reference to the public tranquility, in consequence of the actually insufficient removal of the troops.

I improve the occasion etc., etc.

reference to the public tranquility, in consequence of the

actually insufficient removal of the troops.

I improve the occasion etc., etc.

No. 96

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 15th, 1898.

Jan 18/99

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Appointment of Li Hung Chang on a Commission to examine into and report on the condition of the Yellow River, with a view to improving it.

No. 96

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 15th, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

I have the honor to enclose translation of an Imperial Decree published on the 13th instant.

It is important for two reasons. First: Because it looks toward the possible conservation of vast areas of valuable land and the saving of thousands of lives, and Second: Because it provides a place for Li Hung Chang.

Whether it is intended as a means to remove him from Peking and finally shelve him, or whether it is only a step in the direction of restoring him to his old powerful position in the Government, I do not know. But I am informed that he is satisfied with the appointment and it insures his continued friendship for the Empress Dowager and his support of her policies.

E. H. Conger

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Enclosure:
As above.

Enclosure No. 1 in Despatch No. 96

Translation of an Imperial Decree, published in the Peking Gazette November 13th, 1898.

I, the Empress Dowager, have received a memorial from Shih To and others, who were appointed to meet for deliberation and devise a plan for repairing the banks of the Yellow River, with the request also to select high officials to be sent to Shantung and make an investigation.

Terefore let Li Hung Chang be appointed to go to Shantung and conjointly with Jen Tao Jung (Director-General of the Yellow River) and Chang Ju Mei (Viceroy of Shantung) thoroughly inspect the banks of the Yellow River and to give thorough consideration to the same everywhere, and dn good earnest decide upon a fixed mode of procedure with certain evidence that the work can be carried out.

This work on the Yellow River concerns the welfare of the people of several provinces.

Li Hung Chang and others must take action in good earnest and must not shirk by making empty excuses.

Let them present an itemized statement of the necessary expenses in connection with the work and then send in a memorial requesting an Imperial Decree giving final instructions.

China

DIPLOMATIC, NOV 17 1898 BUREAU.

FORM No. 282.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

INDEX BUREAU REC'D. 17 NOV 1898 DEPT. OF STATE

From Peking, Nov. 17, 1898

Received 8:55 A.M.

Hay,

Washington.

Kanshu troops are being removed.

Conger.

Deciphered by _____

_____, 189 , ____ M.

No. 97

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 22nd, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Translation of a letter purporting to come from Kang Yu Wei, the reform leader, who recently escaped to Hongkong.

No. 97

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 22nd, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to enclose translation of a document, written in Chinese, mailed at Hongkong, and purporting to come from Kang Yu Wei.

It will be remembered that Kang Yu Wei was the reform leader, close friend and adviser of the Emperor, who escaped to Hongkong, and of whom I have several times written.

Several of the other Ministers have received similar communications.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

Enclosure:

Translation as above.

Enclosure No. 1 in Despatch No. 97

K'ang (Yu Wei), Assistant Secretary of the Board of Works, commissioned by the Emperor to manage the "Chinese Progress Magazine" sends the following communication:

My great Emperor has chosen the best methods from all the nations, in order to change the corrupt administration of affairs. Since the 4th Moon many governmental affairs have been undertaken, and His Majesty has striven earnestly to introduce new methods. Boards of Education, Agriculture, and Trade, which are for the preservation of the nation and support of the people, have been undertaken and put into operation according to Western methods. Thus by courage, intelligence, benevolence and enterprise His Majesty is truly able to save this country and this all nations know. But the Empress Dowager holds on to old methods and her ideas are perverse and unreasonable.

This Assistant Secretary has received unusual friendliness from His Majesty in assisting to introduce these reforms.

On the 1st day of the 8th Moon he receive d secret decrees from his Emperor as follows:

"On account of the present difficult and dangerous "state of affairs China's only salvation is to introduce "Western methods. Unless these old-fashioned and conservative "Ministers are removed and intelligent young men, possessed of "a knowledge of Western affairs used instead, it will be impossible to "carry out the reforms We had intended. The Empress Dowager "does not regard it thus. I have repeatedly advised her, but "she becomes angered. Now my throne can scarcely be secure. "You, together with T'an Ssu T'ung, Lin Hsu, Yang Jui, Liu "Kuang Ti, and all others with the same ambition, quickly con- "sult and devise in secret some plan for my salvation. I am "extremely vexed and am anxiously looking for your assistance."

On the 2nd day of the 8th Moon I received another secret order from my Emperor as follows:

"In appointing you to superintend the establishment of

the

the Chinese Progress Magazine I have had no alternative, and have been loth to do so. I have great sorrow in my heart, which cannot be described with pen and ink.

"You must quickly depart and by no means delay. Your whole nature is honest, loving and obliging and this I thoroughly know. You must love your body and take care of your health. I hope that before long you will be able to assist me again in re-organizing my empire."

This Assistant Secretary having received these secret decrees, with bitter weeping and great fearfulness, immediately hastened to seek assistance for his Emperor, but on account of the urgency of time could not take action.

On the 5th day of the 8th Moon my great Emperor was deposed - heaven and earth turned upside down, the sun and moon lost their brilliance. Alas! Alas!

The Emperor Wen Tsung (Hsien Feng) was a predecessor of my great Emperor. According to the established principles of my humble country the legal wife of the Emperor is the mother of the Son of Heaven but by no means can the concubines assume that relation. The usurper Empress Dowager, Na La Shih, who was a concubine of the Emperor Hsien Feng, and the mother of the Emperor Mu Tsung (T'ung Chih) does not sustain the relation of mother to the present Emperor Kuang Hsü. Hence the relations between Emperor and Minister are naturally in accordance with established principles.

During the twenty four years of the Emperor's reign only anxious diligence has been observed and it has not been heard that he was without virtue; but because of a licentious and corrupt concubine my sacred Emperor was deposed. She has fabricated decrees and proclaimed herself adviser of affairs. Why should a young and sacred Son of Heaven be advised as to the affairs of government?

A people cannot have two lords nor a nation two rulers. The correct charge against the Empress Dowager is that she is

a

a usurper. This usurper has become confused, covetous and old, having been led into error by her personal favorites who do not understand Western methods and who do not care to introduce reforms into China. When formerly she grasped great authority she oppressed all the people. The fund of 30,000,000 taels for the Board of Admiralty, 30,000,000 for the Hankow-Lu-k ou-ch'iao Railway and the 260,000 for the yearly salaries of the Peking officials was all appropriated by her for repairing the I ho Yuan (Summer Palace), thus weakening the country and impoverishing the people, all by the oppression of this usurper. She has habitually practiced licentious deeds, and therefore has used many villians. The matter of the execution of the eunuch Kuang An is already notorious. Now she has fabricated decrees feigning to seek healing for His Majesty, but her real meaning was to poison him. This is something which Heaven and Earth would not endure and men and gods hate. This usurper has a bastard son, named Chun Ming, who is to be placed on the Throne. The Emperor's ancestors would not receive his sacrifices Assuredly this is a great disgrace to China.

Moreover how can your honorable Country associate with and recognize as the ruler of a friendly power such a licentious and wicked person and a thief usurper? To rescue from calamity and to show pity in adversity is a philanthropic deed of a friendly nation. To attack what is obscure and to establish what is light is the grave duty of a Sovereign.

The relations between your honorable Country and my great Emperor have been most friendly for twenty four years. The Benevolence and loyalty of your honorable Country is known thro throughout the world. Since there is this friendliness how can you forbear and look on at this great danger and not rescue? This Usurper, the Empress Dowager, adheres to the old methods, oppresses the people and has almost destroyed my country.

The Emperor has employed new methods to change the administration of affairs in order th make my country prospereus.

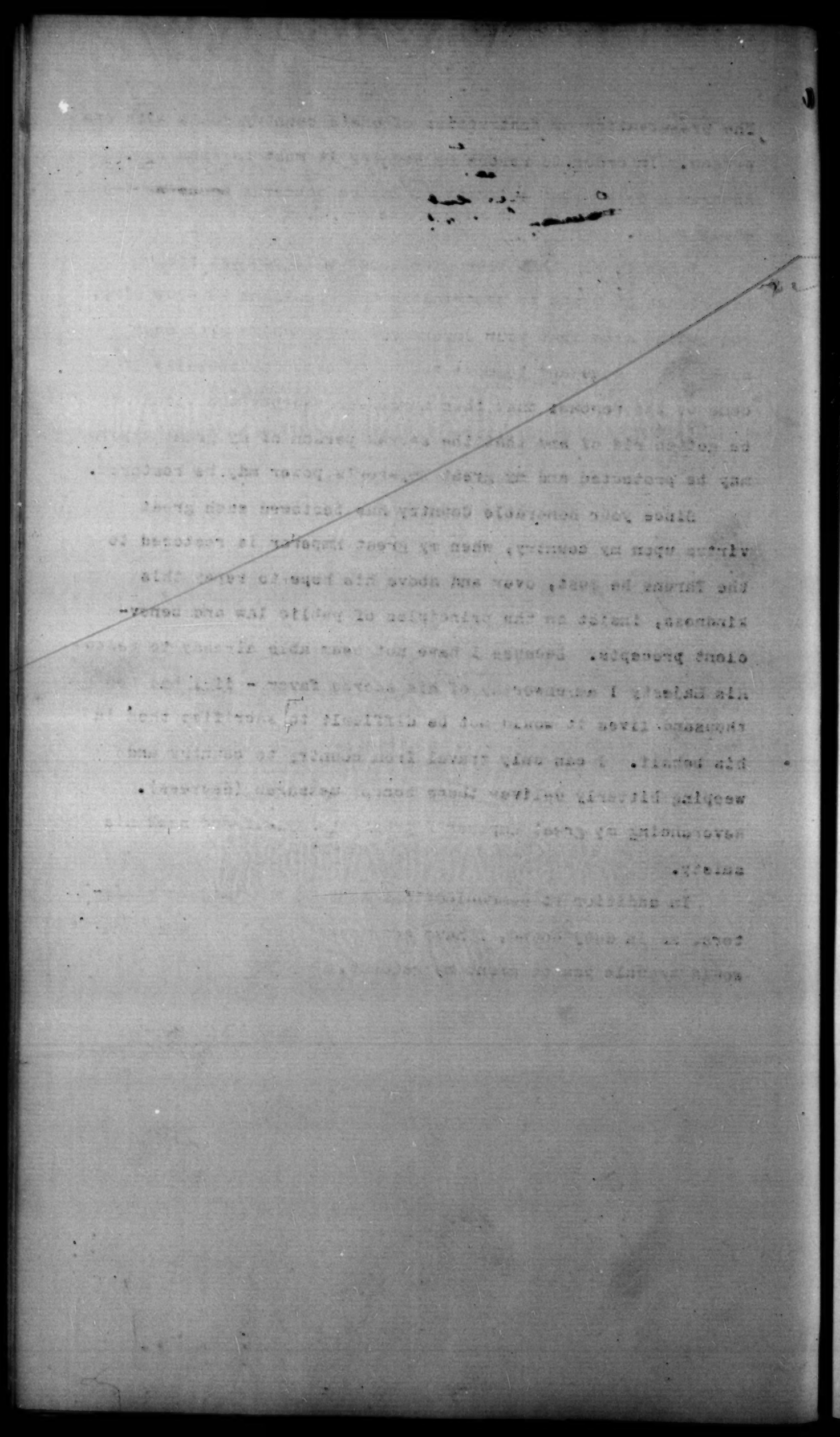
The

The preservation or destruction of one's country rests with one person. In order to rescue my country it must be done now. Assuredly this great calamity of my Empire concerns the whole world.

I humbly beg that Your Excellency will request the Department of State to memorialize the President to show pity, requesting also that your Government will decide upon what ought to be done and to move troops in order to speedily come to the rescue; that this murderous usurper and thief may be gotten rid of and that the sacred person of my great Emperor may be protected and my great Emperor's power may be restored.

Since your honorable Country has bestowed such great virtue upon my country, when my great Emperor is restored to the Throne he must, over and above his hope to repay this kindness, insist on the principles of public law and benevolent precepts. Because I have not been able already to rescue His Majesty I am unworthy of his sacred favor - if I had ten thousand lives it would not be difficult to sacrifice them in his behalf. I can only travel from country to country and weeping bitterly deliver these secret messages (decrees). Reverencing my great Emperor I prostrate myself and seek his safety.

In addition to communications sent to the various Ministers, as in duty bound, I have addressed Your Excellency and would trouble you to grant my request.



No. 98

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 25rd, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: No importance attached to appointment of Liu Kuen Hsun and Ch'ing K'uan, which appeared in the Peking Gazette of November 19th last, [redacted] on visits foreign countries to examine into the methods of trade and commerce.

No. 98

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, Novemver 23rd, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

I have the honor to report to the Department that an Imperial Decree appeared in the Peking Gazette of the 19th instant, directing Liu Hsueh Hsun, who has the rank of Prefect, and Ch'ing K'uan, who has the rank of Second-Class Secretary of a Board, to go in person to foreign countries, at their own expense, to examine into the methods of trade and commerce.

I am informed that these men are wealthy Southerners who proposed to go abroad at their own expense if the Emperor would give them official status. There is nothing of importance in their appointment; they are not experts in any branch of trade but simply desired to go abroad with Government sanction so as to insure official recognition and attention.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

[illegible] OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 23rd, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: The Chinese Government has been notified of the additional [illegible] of ratification of the Acts of the [illegible] which have been deposited in the Department of State.

(Instruction, without number, October 1st, 1898.)

No. 99

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 25rd, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

Replying to the Department's instructions, without number, dated October 1st last, I have the honor to inform you that I notified, on the 22nd instant, the Chinese Government of the additional instruments of ratification of the Acts of the Washington Postal Congress which have been deposited in the Department of State, they being in addition to those referred to in the Department's unnumbered instruction of July 15th last.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

No. 100

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 26th, 1898.

Ltr Jan 1 1899

copy to Chefoo Jan 6.99.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Reply to Mr. John Fowler's criticisms on the Chinese Bureau of Control for Railways and Mines, and on the proportion of Americans in the employ of the Chinese Customs Service.

(Instructions No. 40, September 19th, 1898.)

No. 100

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Peking, China, November 26th, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of Department instructions No.40 of September 19th enclosing copy of Confidential despatch from our Consul at Chefoo, concerning the Chinese Bureau of Control for Railways and Mines, and showing how such Boards strengthen British influence in China.

By reference to a copy of the decree creating the Railway and Mining Board, transmitted in my despatch No.24 August 11, it will be observed that this Board consists of two members of the Tsungli Yamen, and places no difficulty in the way of Americans obtaining concessions, nor does it give any foreign advantage over another.

The Board is in no sense the creation of Mr. Pritchard Morgan, M.P. It is true Mr.Morgan has spent much time and money in China during the last two years exploiting the mining districts of China and trying to obtain valuable concessions and has tried to get the Chinese Government to create a Mining Bureau with one or more foreigners at its head, but so far he has failed and I believe is soon to return home disgusted. It is however extremely probable, that, should this or any other Bureau be operated under the advice or direction of a foreigner of any nationality favors would undoubtedly be shown to his country and his people, as long as human nature is human nature.

Mr.

Mr.Fowler's criticisms of the Customs Service have more foundation,-and yet as long as Europeans come out here and reside,and Americans remain at home and depend upon Europeans to handle American products in competition with their own,they must expect American trade to suffer. Diplomatic protests and demands made upon the Customs for business wil be of little avail unless business and business men are at hand to meet the requirements.

Sir Robert Hart,the Inspector General of Customs,is an Englishman,with his home,family and property in England. About sixty-five per cent of the foreign business passing through his Customs department is English,and it is not to be wondered at that Englishmen and English trade are favored.

As to the number of Americans employed in the Customs Service: The original idea and perhaps understanding was that each country should be given places in proportion to its per cent of trade. England (and her dependencies) furnish sixty-five per cent of the trade and has fifty-eight per-cent of the employees. The United States furnishes eight per cent of the trade and has about eight per cent of the employees.

Germany and France seem to have more than their share, yet this is largely because the low wages and lack of employment in those countries has impelled young men to emigrate hence, and the presence of many relatives and friends in China has attracted them here. They have been satisfied with Customs wages and have remained in the service. The young men of the United States have neither been so attracted hither,nor have been willing to remain in the service,but have left to do better at home or elsewhere. However,the United States has more than its share of the high places.

If there were a few young men at hand as vacancies occur,I think it would not be difficult to secure additional places,but of course they must begin at the bottom and

promotions

[illegible] are very slow.

I shall call the attention of Sir Robert Hart to these [illegible], but shall not make formal protest to the Chinese Government unless the Department so instructs.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

C. H. Denby

No. 101

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 26th, 1898.

Jan. 25 99

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Newspaper clipping. Proceedings of a meeting of British residents at Newchwang.

No. 101

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 26th, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

I have the honor to enclose herein clipping from the Peking and Tientsin Times of the 19th instant, purporting to give the proceedings of a meeting of British residents at Newchwang, presided over by J.J.Fredk.Bandinel, Vice Consul of the United States at that place.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

Enclosure:

Clipping as above.

Peking & Tientsin Times

Nov 19th 1898

Enclosure in Despatch

No. 101

Lord Charles Beresford at Newchwang.

The visit of Lord Charles Beresford to Newchwang appears to have been as much fraught with surprise as his visit to Tientsin, but not precisely in the same way. Here, Lord Charles was agreeably surprised to find British interests much more largely represented than he imagined. At Newchwang he has seen, with a graphic emphasis that leaves nothing to the imagination, how completely they are being shouldered out by the determined enterprise (?) of Russia. Lord Charles with a fair equity of judgment which enhances the value of his criticisms, has no word of blame for Russia for what she is doing, as he maintains every nation has the right to do the best it can for its own interests. The fault lies in that progress not being checked when we find it conflicting with our interests. Lord Charles visited the Russian Settlement and was hospitably entertained there by the Russian Resident, and he also met the British residents by special invitation at the office of Messrs. Bush Bros. when the following resolutions were laid before him, copies of which will, we understand be sent to Lord Salisbury and also to Sir Claude MacDonald.

We advocate—

I.—Obtaining a British Concession on the North bank of the river, that is to say on the side opposite to the present town.

II.—Forming the East end of the town within the walls into a foreign (not necessarily British) Settlement.

III.—The right of owning land in the interior and establishing there filatures and other similar enterprises worked by foreign machinery.

IV.—The right of working mines in any part of the three provinces where Chinese or other foreigners may or do work them, and on equally favourable terms.

V.—The maintenance of our right to inland navigation with power to stop at any town or village on the bank, equally with those enjoyed on any river in China.

VI.—That the rights and properties of the Protestant missionaries and their converts should be maintained intact as heretofore, according to the rights existing by the Treaty of Tientsin and the Edict of 1891.

VII.—That a British Consular agent be permanently stationed in Kirin as formerly in Chungking.

VIII.—We deprecate most strongly the annexation of this port and of any of the three provinces by any Foreign Power: and we rely on the Britsh Government to maintain the open door.

IX.—We object to the right claimed and exercised by the Russians, of landing railway material without examination or payment of duty: especially as this diminishes the security on which money has been loaned by British subjects to the Chinese Government.

X.—We view with apprehension the establishment of Russian military posts throughout the provinces as at Kirin.

XI.—That the Russian Government should be requested to appoint a Consul at this port in view of the large and increasing Russian interests, and the possibility of complications arising which would demand immediate conference between Consul and Officials on the spot.

XII.—That a copy of these resolutions be sent by the Chairman to Lord Charles Beresford, also another copy with the request that he will communicate the same to Lord Salisbury, and that another copy be sent to Her Majesty's Minister at Peking.

J. J. FREDK. BANDINEL,
Chairman of the Meeting.

Enclosure in Despatch

No. 101.

No. 102

DIPLOMATIC, JAN 20 1899 BUREAU.

20 ASSISTANT SECRETARY, To Navy Dept. referring to the previous correspondence. JAN 20 1899

INDEX BUREAU REC'D. 19 JAN '99 DEPT. OF STATE

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 30th, 1898.

copy to Navy Jan. 28/99 C.

See Dec 23 to Navy

Ackd Mch 2/99

See letter from Navy dept, Feb 2/99

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

COPIED. FOREIGN RELATIONS.

Subject: Department's telegram of the 28th and Legation's reply of the 30th instant confirmed. Removal of marine guard from Peking. Reasons for keeping during the winter.

No. 107

No. 102

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 30th, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

I have the honor to confirm, on the overleaf, your telegram of the 28th instant and my reply of this date.

Perfect quiet prevails at present, but the same reasons exist for having the guards here and at Tientsin as did when I wrote my despatch No. 82, of November 3rd, to which I respectfully refer without repeating its contents. 81

The effect of the presence of the foreign guards here has been an increased respect for and fear of the foreign Governments by the Chinese, and an inspiration on the part of the Government to take such increased precautionary measures as will probably insure protection of foreigners.

If any of the guards should be removed before next spring much of this gain would be lost, and the Government that should remove her guards would lose considerable

prestige

prestige and forfeit the respect of the Chinese Government and people.

It may be thought that the Chinese Government would feel more kindly towards us, and our friendly relations be strengthened and our influence increased by withdrawing our troops while the others remain, but my brief observation and study of them constrains me to believe that gratitude and courteousness in the Chinese character are rather personal than public virtues, and that the Government which makes a show of power with, a reasonably sustained threat to use it, is far more potent than the one which expects a like response to polite and courteous treatment.

This opinion is shared by all of my colleagues and they expect to continue their guards all winter.

Therefore in my judgment, for the reasons already given in my former despatches, with the further one, that we cannot afford to lose the prestige and respect that fifty marines and two Gatling guns at Tientsin and Peking have given us. There <u>is</u> necessity for the guards remaining in Peking and I shall not direct their return to their ship unless the Department so instructs.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

TELEGRAM RECEIVED.(CIPHER)

WASHINGTON,NOVEMBER 28TH,1898.

CONGER,MINISTER,

PEKING.

CHINESE MINISTER REPRESENTS TROOPS REMOVED FROM LINE AND QUIET RESTORED IN PEKING. IF IN YOUR OPINION THERE IS NO NECESSITY FOR GUARD REMAINING MAY BE ORDERED BACK TO THEIR SHIP.

(SIGNED.) HAY.

TELEGRAM SENT.(CIPHER.)

PEKING,NOVEMBER 30,1898.

HAY,

WASHINGTON.

QUIET AT PRESENT BUT GUARDS SHOULD REMAIN ALL THE WINTER.

(SIGNED.) CONGER.

No. 103

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 30th, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Jan 25 99

Subject: Newspaper clipping. Speech of Lord Charles Beresford. Probable attack on the Government at the next parliamentary session.

No. 103

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 30th, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to enclose a clipping from the North China Daily News of the 21st instant, containing a speech of Lord Charles Beresford, made at the annual dinner of the Shanghai Board of the China Association.

Lord Beresford and Mr. Pritchard-Morgan, M.P., who also has spent much time investigating conditions in China, have both expressed to friends here their determination to return home, and at the next parliamentary session, make a vigorous attack against the government because of its policy in China.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

Enclosure:

Newspaper clipping as above.

THE ANNUAL DINNER OF THE SHANGHAI BRANCH OF THE CHINA ASSOCIATION.

The annual dinner of this important Association took place at the Shanghai Club on Saturday, Mr. C. J. Dudgeon, Chairman of the Association, presiding, with Lord Charles Beresford, C.B., R.N., the guest of the evening, on his right, and Sir N. J. Hannen, Chief Judge of the Supreme Court, on his left hand. Mr. E. F. Alford, Vice-Chairman of the Association, was in the vice-chair, with Mr. Byron Brenan, C.M.G., British Consul-General, on his right, and Captain Pottinger, R.A., on his left hand. The other members of the Committee of the Association, Messrs. J. O. P. Bland, C. Dowdall, E. A. Hewett, G. J. Morrison, J. L. Scott, J. R. M. Smith, and A. Wright, occupied the ends of the numerous tables that were required to seat the large company, amounting to over one hundred and sixty. The dinner did great credit to the resources of the Club and its staff, and was enlivened by the performance by the Town Band of the following programme :—

1.—Overture—La Gazza Ladra ...Rossini.
2.—Selection—The Diamond Jubilee .....Kappey.
3.—Waltz—L'Etoile Polaire .....Waldteufel.
4.—Selection—Irish Melodies.....Kappey.
5.—{ La Serenata.....Braga. Intermezzo — Cavalleria Rusticana .....Mascagni.
6.—Selection—Reminiscences of Scotland ... .Godfrey.
7.—Selection—The Gondoliers. Sullivan.
8.—March—Shanghai Jubilee ...M. Vela.

The other invited guests were :—Messrs. F. S. A. Bourne, W. P. Ker, H. P. Wilkinson, E. H. Burrows, S. F. Mayers, B. Twyman, T. G. Carvill, Commander Cochran, R.N., H.M.S. *Phœnix*, Lieut. Coode, R.N., H.M.S. *Algerine*, and six

Enclosure in Despatch No. 103

No. 104

or indeed their lives, in this country. (Cheers.) I do not disguise from you or from myself that I find a unanimous opinion among these British communities—an opinion that is based on great anxiety, considerable nervousness as to the future, and considerable doubt as to whether any of them will invest additional money for further development of their trade on account of there being no security for the future. I have taken a very strong line on this question in England, both in the House and in the country. Perhaps I exaggerate, but I do believe if our country is going to allow our people to be squeezed out of China, or if we continue our trade without further developing it, I do believe it will be the beginning of the end of our great empire. (Cheers.) Therefore I hold that the interests of the Far East are immeasurably superior to the interests of the Near East. But there is this point to be remembered, that the people at home are most crassly ignorant of the situation of things in China. I cannot quite blame them for that because I must plead guilty myself to being one of those ignorant persons before I came out here and consulted those people who know the facts in this country. But I would respectfully submit to you that in many parts of our great empire circumstances occur, as in China, when people come to believe that the British empire is centred in that locality. Therefore I would say, with great respect, though we have felt very warmly towards the Cabinet and country, we must look at things broadly and as affecting the empire. The empire is a very large one, and difficulties have to be contended with in various countries. The Cabinet have had considerable difficulties on the north-west frontier of India, the west coast of Africa, in Jamaica, in British Guiana, the Cape, and lately in the Soudan, as to which the military officer (Captain Pottinger) has made a most excellent speech. But let me point this out; would it have been quite wise of our Cabinet, at a moment when there might have been a doubt as to the ultimate success of that expedition—supposing some one had made a mistake, and what was a brilliant victory had been, I will not say a defeat, but a reverse, we should have had to send large reinforcements to make the thing secure—would it have been wise, I say, for the Cabinet to have embarked on some great enterprise in this country? I do not think it would have been wise, but this I will say, that all these questions have been more or less settled now, and so far as my endeavours go, if you will only support me, I will do all I can to make my countrymen see that they have got to do something in this country, and that we cannot go on with the policy of drift, as we have been doing. (Loud cheers.) There is another point I must mention relative to the case in Crete. I as a naval officer feel, and my brother naval officers will join with me in finding the most supreme satisfaction that a bold, frank and honest seaman has settled the difficulty which has puzzled the whole of Europe and all its Cabinets. I refer to Admiral Noël. (Cheers.) One word more on this question. With regard to your Ministers in China, I would respectfully submit to your Press here—I know it is very dangerous to attack the Press, because the Press always has the last word, but I am not, being an Irishman, very careful whom I attack if I get a thing in my head (laughter)—I would ask the Press in all fairness to remember that it is not quite the way to win an action to attack the agent. Attack the principal, not the agent; pitch into the Cabinet and Government, but, after all, we do not know what your agent's orders are, what the British Minister's orders are. He may be wanting, like a good horse to go straight over the country, take all the obstacles, and go a galloping pace, but happens to have a nervous rider on his back who funks the fences, jobs him in the mouth, and brings him down. (Laughter and cheers.) With regard to your Minister, you will agree with me here that he is the first Minister you have had that understands this point, that he is not only here for diplomatic action, to write dispatches and protocols, but that he is here in the interest of trade and commerce as well. I venture to be-

whatever. I asked my Russian friend, who was a charming person, if it took all these armed Cossacks to protect three cargoes of sea-weed, what would be the armed force required to protect three millions of trade, as the value of our trade was last year in Newchwang. I need not tell you that I got no answer but a smile. (Laughter.) With regard to Newchwang, it is one of the most important places of British trade in this country, for two reasons, one is that it is the place where our trade is increasing in a larger degree than any other place out here, the other is that it is more possible for encroachment by Russia because it is nearer to Russia than any other place. I also want to point out that it is all-important to us, because it is our only open port in that district at all. Talienwan and Port Arthur are distinctly closed. It is all very well to say they are going to open them by-and-by, but I am talking of the present moment. By-and-by there may be some difficulty in opening the door of Talienwan, because it will be found that the hinges of the door are so rusty that the door will not come open at all. (Laughter, and hear, hear.) I found that in one day in Newchwang there were twenty steamers carrying British trade, and I took the trouble to count the junks on one side of the river and found there were 1,600 lying there. I do not object to Russia doing what she is doing if she thinks it is necessary for the benefit of her trade, but what I want to point out is that our trade in the future will depend upon the good will of Russia. That is a position to which we are not accustomed in this country, (cheers) and, without saying anything of a disrespectful nature to Russia, I do say most emphatically that it is the business of our Government to see that there is something more in the nature of security behind our trade than mere diplomatic utterances or assurances, or the mere good will that I have referred to. (Cheers.) Now, if I am not detaining you too long, (cries of "Go on") I should like to touch on another question which appears to me of great moment. Our policy as declared by the Cabinet, approved of by the country, and I am perfectly sure by everyone in this room, is what is called the "open door." (Hear, hear.) Ministers have raved with their hands over their heads, declaring that they will fight for the "open door." The Press and individuals have made use of more or less strong language in favour of the "open door;" we have sent our fleets roving about in muddy waters for the sake of the "open door," but the extraordinary thing is that that door has been shut—absolutely shut. The idea that the door is kept open because there are no hostile tariffs or preferential rates is absolutely incorrect. The door can be firmly closed by the interference of one country with the commercial enterprises of of another. You can see what occurred in connection with the Newchwang railway. A party at home had a contract made to be signed by the Chinese government. One clause in that contract was that the security for the money should cover the whole of the railway to Newchwang. The Russian government, in their wisdom, and with the idea of benefiting their country, strongly objected to that clause. We, on the part of the people proposing the contract, gave an intimation that we would not tolerate any interference with the railway. But the Russian government pressed their point and gained it, and at this moment the security that was to have been allowed on that portion of the railway from Shanhaikuan to Newchwang does not exist. Now, therefore, I say the Cabinet have admitted the right of the Russian government to interfere in purely commercial enterprises. That is my contention, and if such things as this occurred in other open ports through the influence of England I think we should hear a very great deal more about it. I cannot conceive why these things go on in what is nominally a Chinese province and in a port that is open to the commerce of all the world. I merely tell you what I have seen and I am sure you will bear me out that in my remarks I have said nothing discourteous, or nothing of a jingoistic or spread-eagle character, but merely a statement of facts as they presented themselves to my point of view.

(Laughter.) I am as certain as I stand here if the men were only regularly paid, properly fed and clothed, they would follow Europeans just the same as we have seen in Egypt and elsewhere. (Applause.) As to the mandarins, I do not think any language could be too strong to apply to their system. But I want to know what I should do if I were ordered to govern fifty million people, keep them contented, and look after them in every way, being told that I am to get no salary, but that I have to pay an enormous sum for being appointed to office. How on earth can I do anything else but squeeze? But I believe if you could pay the mandarins proper salaries and let them occupy their places as long as they governed properly, with perhaps an odd threat that if they did not their heads would come off, I believe you would have a very good government in this country. My view of the future is that we should induce the Chinese government to allow British officers to reorganise their army. I believe if their army were properly organised it would be an ample security for the prosperity of the country and a benefit to all nations. (Applause.) One more word as to the action of the Government at home. I can assure you that I do not believe such a thing as the *Kowshing* case could have happened to the American or German flag without that case being settled long ago. That case should have been settled a long time ago, and I shall make that case particularly my own when I get home, and try and see why it is not settled. Then there is a case of a pilot cutter that was run down by a steamer. The steamer was so palpably in the wrong that I cannot understand why the case was given against the cutter. That is a case which should be probed to the bottom, and I believe the steamer would have to pay. Then there is the case of the Bank of China and Japan in which certain shareholders, I believe they were Chinese, agreed not only to the articles of association but signed a separate agreement to be bound in any dispute by English law. I am afraid I am detaining you a long time. ("No, no") I have continually been told that our policy has broken down. I, however, respectfully disagree with that. We have had no policy to break down. (Hear, hear.) What we want is a definite policy which we and other nations may understand. You must remember every diplomatic defeat we suffer affects our trade in this country more than it does in other countries because in the East we live undoubtedly by prestige, and our prestige has suffered to an alarming extent if it has not gone altogether. I think you will agree with me that our efforts should be to restore that prestige. One more point, I hope I have not been misunderstood in anything I have said as thinking that we should mark any more of the chart red; but we can assist the Chinese to get their house into order, to have an army properly led policing the country and protecting the trade of all nations. I believe that one of the first things our government should do is to endeavour to get a commercial alliance between our country, Germany, America, and Japan. (Applause.) The foundation and object of such an alliance would be a fair field and no favour; would be the integrity of China as it is, and would be the open door trade policy for all nations. With that, and an adequate army for police purposes, I believe this country would go on and prosper. Certainly, if we do not do that, we shall be driven out of the country, or we shall have to fight, in which case we shall fight at a disadvantage and then not be able to recover what we had lost. This is my firm conviction. I am obliged to you, gentlemen, for having listened to my remarks. My concluding words are these, that I believe the time for action has come. There is no necessity for war, for peace is our greatest interest, but as sure as we go on drifting we shall come to war. If we do take this question in hand together with those nations I have mentioned I believe there will be no war, but peace and prosperity, and your trade in this country will be amply secured in the future. (Loud cheers, during which Lord Charles resumed his seat.)

Lord Charles's speech was constantly in-

4 Rusticana .....Mascagni.
6.—Selection—Reminiscences of Scotland ... .Godfrey.
7.—Selection—The Gondoliers. Sullivan.
8.—March—Shanghai Jubilee ...M. Vela.

The other invited guests were :—Messrs. F. S. A. Bourne, W. P. Ker, H. P. Wilkinson, E. H. Burrows, S. F. Mayers, B. Twyman, T. G. Carvill, Commander Cochran, R.N., H.M.S. *Phœnix*, Lieut. Coode, R.N., H.M.S. *Algerine*, and six officers, Captain F. G. Dundas, R.N. Captain Pottinger, R.A., Captain L. W. Tucker, Richard H. McDonald, Robin Grey, Cumming Macdona, M.P., P. A. Chance, Sheridan, F. J. Mayers, J. H. O'Dowd, G. Brocklebank, James Butler, Edmund Cousins, B. A. Isaac, and F. Yates.

There were also present :—Messrs. C. Murray Adamson, C. S. Addis, R. B. Allen, F. Anderson, R. A. Anderson E. O. Arbuthnot, William Bates, H. F. L. Bell, J. C. Bois, David Brand, E. V. Brenan, A. S. Bremner, H. Browett, James Buchanan, J. W. H. Burgoyne, A. W. Burkill, R. M. Campbell, A. J. H. Carlill, W. Cartwright, E. H. Casey, B. A. Clarke, H. J. Clarke, J. Cooper, Dr. W. A. D. Cooper, W. J. Clarke, G. D. Coutts, J. H. Craven, H. W. Daniel, S. L. Darby, C. Gilbert Davies, E. Davis, L. Kennard Davis, W. M. Dowdall, F. Ellis, R. S. Freeman, R. S. Furlonge, Duncan Glass, Frank Gove, G. L. Grattan, W. J. Gresson, H. Gribble, H. C. Gulland, E. Gumpert, James Hall, J. T. Hamilton, J. C. Hanson, J. W. Harding, S. A. Hardoon, C. W. Hay, Drummond Hay, H. W. G. Hayter, H. R. Hearn, Dr. E. Henderson, Rev. H. C. Hodges, E. Jenner Hogg, Dr. R. S. Ivy, W. S. Jackson, A. E. Jones, Jas. Johnston, Leonard Kerr (*Secretary*), H. E. Keylock, T. W. Kingsmill, H. R. Kinnear, W. E. Leveson, R. W. Little, W. D. Little, L. S. Lewis, A. D. Lowe, R. Macgregor, Capt. D. Mackenzie, J. H. MacLaren, Dr. N. Macleod, Chas. Mayne, L. Midwood, Dr. W. J. Milles, J. Morris, D. M. Moses, Rev. William Muirhead, D.D., W. C. Murray, Geo. W. Noël, H. O'Shea, Jas. H. Osborne, H. R. Parkes, Capt. Pattisson, E. C. Pearce, W. G. Pirie, W. H. Poate, J. Prentice, E. A Probst, S. Pratt, T. Morgan Phillips, H. H. Read, Dr. D. J. Reid, A. M. Reith, Rev. Timothy Richard, J. W. Richardson. W. Bruce Robertson, F. H. Sawyer, G. D. Scott, Ed. Shellim, E. B. Skottowe, J. Smedley, F. T. Souter, J. Stern, A. P. Stokes, H. J. Such, R. Sutherland, J. D. Thorburn, Cornelius Thorne, A. Thurburn, James Tulloch, J. R. Twentyman, J. P. Wake, Edward White, Marcus Wolff, A. P. Wood, T. Wood. C. W. Wrightson, G. R. Wingrove, and J. M. Young.

The proceedings were so protracted, Lord Charles Beresford speaking for an hour, to the great delight of his audience, who would willingly have heard him at still greater length, that we can only give this morning in full the speech made by his lordship. The first toast was "The Queen," proposed by the Chairman, and drunk with the greatest enthusiasm to the strains of "God save the Queen!" by the band. The second toast was "The Navy, Army, and Auxiliary Forces," proposed by the Vice-Chairman. Capt. Cochran, R.N., replied for the Navy, Capt. Pottinger, R.A., in an extremely well-conceived and well-delivered speech, for the army, and Major B. A. Clarke. S.V.C., for the auxiliary forces. Then came the health of the guest of the evening, Lord Charles Beresford, proposed by the Chairman in a

like a good horse to go straight over the country, take all the obstacles, and go a galloping pace, but happens to have a nervous rider on his back who funks the fences, jobs him in the mouth, and brings him down. (Laughter and cheers.) With regard to your Minister, you will agree with me here that he is the first Minister you have had that understands this point, that he is not only here for diplomatic action, to write dispatches and protocols, but that he is here in the interest of trade and commerce as well. I venture to believe you have not had a Minister, and you will not have a Minister, who will be better than Sir Claude Macdonald in recognising that our interests in the East are those of trade and commerce. What I have endeavoured to do here is to find out from the communities wherever I have been what they want, why they want it; what they fear, why they fear it; and what they think the best methods for remedy for what may occur in the future. I have been very kindly treated by everybody. I have got an enormous amount of information, some, perhaps, more or less contradictory (laughter), but, on the whole, I believe I have got a long way towards getting into my mind what the people out here who know their business and trade think themselves, so that I can focus it and let the electorate know at home. With regard to your trade I believe I am right in saying at present it is very good. I have got no complaints to go home with. There may be some individual industries that will not agree with this, but the volume of trade as I understand it is not at all bad at present. I also believe that, so far as development goes, people are not inclined at all to do anything to develop their trade largely because they do not see what policy the Government is going to put forward at home, and, as far as security for trade and commerce goes, both from what I have been able to learn and also from what I can see for myself, I would say there is absolutely none in this country whatever. There are two things to my mind that loom very black in the near future for trade and commerce in China. One is the dominant and military position of Russia in the North, and the other is the absolutely effete condition of the Government of this country with regard to the four hundred million inhabitants which they can in no way control, while at any moment, if you put up stores or trade centres in the country, they may be destroyed or burnt, and the government of this country will have no control over those who do it. Those are two great points I see in the future, and if I am wrong perhaps someone will correct me. Now, with regard to Russia, I have said in the House of Commons, and I say here, I have no blame whatever to attach to Russia. I think that every Government of a country is bound to use every effort it can in the direction it thinks is for the interest of its commerce and people, but what I do say is this, and say strongly, that while other countries take these precautions and use these efforts, we must be very careful that they do nothing that will hurt our interests. I know that Russia has moved by leaps and bounds into positions that are 1,200 miles further than they were twelve months ago, and one of the curious features I have found here is that nobody is so astonished as the Russians to find themselves in the position they are in at present. (Hear, hear.) I do not think it wise to say what has been or what might have been; it is always better to say what is and see what we are to do in the future, but with regard to Russia, if I were a Russian I should use the very best efforts I could to place myself in Peking and then the Yangtze, provided I had no more opposition than they have found at present in getting to Newchwang and Port Arthur. What did I find at Newchwang? I was alarmed to find the British community there rather hapless. They were sitting down and saying: "Now what do you think we will get out of our property when Russia owns Manchuria? Do you think Russia will allow us to do this and that? Would you take home a resolution to say that we hope Russia will allow us this and that?" I remarked, we do not hold the British empire by such feminine policy as that. (Cheers.) I said: "Sit down and draft a strong resolution to the Government and if such things as this occurred in other open ports through the influence of England I think we should hear a very great deal more about it. I cannot conceive why these things go on in what is nominally a Chinese province and in a port that is open to the commerce of all the world. I merely tell you what I have seen and I am sure you will bear me out that in my remarks I have said nothing discourteous, or nothing of a jingoistic or spread-eagle character, but merely a statement of facts as they presented themselves to my point of view. (Hear, hear.) I think the time has arrived when you should press upon the leaders of opinion and the Government of the day that you are anxious that the position should be clearly defined, because there is no reason in the world why a similar state of circumstances should not occur with regard to Peking, or right away down the Yangtze valley. Therefore a line should be drawn or some definite, clear, policy, which should be perfectly courteous in its tone, should be laid down as to what position we hold in China and with regard to what has occurred in the North. I always believe in public men, as far as possible, endeavouring to suit their language to what is generally used and exhibited in the House of Commons, that is, a line of argument, a line of courtesy, and a line opposed to strong spread-eagle talk, more particularly where mentioning foreign countries. With regard to this question of diplomatic success and assurances, why should we not believe that Russia will always do what she has done before? We can remember such events as occurred at Merv, Bokhara, Khiva, Batoum and the Black Sea treaty, and things of that description, which were carried out after the assurances were given that they should not be done. Again I Russia say invariably wins when it comes to diplomatic action. There has been another question brought up, which is called the "sphere of influence" policy, and when I left home, to show you how ignorant we are at home, I was under the idea that we had some portion of China which was within our sphere of influence, and I believed that portion was called the Yangtze valley. I have been puzzled, however, to know what the Yangtze valley means, and nobody has been able to tell me. I asked the question on two occasions in the House of Commons, because I thought anyway we have got something we can fall back upon, we have got a sphere of influence. I wanted to know the latitude and longitude, but I got the usual official reply. Still I was convinced we had a sphere of influence until I came out here. When I examine the Yangtze valley on the chart I am very much puzzled, and it is most difficult to find out what it means. Would it include Shensi and Yunnan? I cannot find out what the Yangtze Valley is, and when I come to the "sphere of influence" I am amazed to find that there is no such thing whatever. What has taken in the British public—it certainly took in your humble servant—is the dispatch which was put before the House of Commons, dated the 11th of February, 1898. This dispatch was from the Chinese Government in answer to one from Sir Claude Macdonald. It ran: "The British Minister would be glad to be in a position to communicate to their Majesty's Government a definite assurance that China would never alienate any territory in the provinces adjoining the Yangtze to any other Power." "To any other Power" would naturally lead one to suppose that meant to any other Power but Great Britain, and that we were the Power to have such sphere of influence, but when I questioned Sir Claude Macdonald I found that it is nothing of the sort and that we are included in the other Powers. So as matters are we have not got one single sod in China which belongs to us as a "sphere of influence," although the people at home think they have, barring the lease of Weihaiwei, and the addition to Hongkong at Mirs Bay. What is the position of other countries? I think we may say, without exaggeration, Russia has got a very extensive sphere of influence; I think we may say Germany has; but the Great British nation, with 68 per cent of the whole trade in its hands, has no sphere of influence, and so far as the North is concerned, there is no open door. In for having listened to my remarks. My concluding words are these, that I believe the time for action has come. There is no necessity for war, for peace is our greatest interest, but as sure as we go on drifting we shall come to war. If we do take this question in hand together with those nations I have mentioned I believe there will be no war, but peace and prosperity, and your trade in this country will be amply secured in the future. (Loud cheers, during which Lord Charles resumed his seat.)

Lord Charles's speech was constantly interrupted by loud and prolonged cheering, and the greatest enthusiasm was displayed when his lordship resumed his seat. The next toast was "Our Guests," proposed very discursively by Mr. G. J. Morrison, who coupled with it the name of Sir Nichlas J. Hannen, whose reply was neat and to the point and was heartily cheered. The last official toast was "The China Association," introduced by the Chairman in a really excellent speech, in the course of which he proposed the following forcible resolution, which was seconded by the Vice-Chairman, and carried by acclamation:—

"That this Branch of the China Association views with the greatest concern the apparent apathy, indifference, and lack of knowledge displayed by our Home Government as to the true state of affairs in China, and as to the positions of advantage which are being secured by other Powers, to which no counterpoise has yet been obtained. That this Branch holds that any submission on the part of Great Britain to foreign dictation as to the terms of commercial contracts involves loss of prestige which is necessarily prejudicial to the security of British trade and commerce in China. Further that this Branch is convinced that the commercial and political situations cannot be separated, and that in order to prevent British Treaty rights being frittered away, it is necessary that Her Majesty's Government should define on clear and definite lines the policy of Great Britain in this country, and the limits beyond which territorial aggression shall not be permitted; finally that such policy must be supported by strong and decided action, and that endeavours should be made to secure the co-operation of those Great Powers which have similar aims and interests."

The last toast was the health of the Chairman, proposed by Mr. E. A. Probst and most enthusiastically honoured. It was now more than half-an-hour after midnight, and the large gathering melted rapidly away.

THE GERMAN MAIL.

The N.-D. L. steamer *Baye*
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ive

D. Thorburn, Cornelius Thorne, A. Thurburn, James Tulloch, J. R. Twentyman, J. P. Wake, Edward White, Marcus Wolff, A. P. Wood, T. Wood. C. W. Wrightson, G. R. Wingrove, and J. M. Young.

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Lord Charles Beresford, who on rising was received with continued cheering, said —Mr. Dudgeon, and gentlemen of the China Association, I have to thank you, Sir, very warmly for the remarks that you made when proposing my health, and I have also to thank you, gentlemen, for the undoubtedly enthusiastic way in which you received them. I had not intended to make any remarks during my cruise round the British communities in this country; I was going to reserve those remarks for a proper report to the Associated Chambers of Commerce, also to the Cabinet, and even to a more important body—the electorate of our great country at home. (Hear, hear.) You spoke of hard work, Sir, but that was my business, and it is the business of every Britisher never to undertake to do a thing unless he does it with all his might and main and to the best of his ability. But I think that this is the first time that your great trading communities of this country have had a fair chance of placing your views, why you hold them, what you fear, and why you fear it in the future, before the great electorate of the people at home. (Hear, hear.) I am very well aware that your Consuls have sent many trade reports home; I am very well aware that this great and powerful association has sent very many resolutions home, but, so far as I can gather, these reports and resolutions have been relegated to some of those pigeon-holes where so many things are forgotten. (Hear, hear.) So far as my mission goes, I dare say you know what my reference was. It was to come out here, to find out the ideas of the trading communities, how far they thought they could develop the British trade at present going on, and more than all, what security they can have for the future of their property,

…use these efforts, we must be very …reful that they do nothing that will hurt …r interests. I know that Russia has …ved by leaps and bounds into positions …t are 1,200 miles further than they were …elve months ago, and one of the curious …tures I have found here is that nobody …o astonished as the Russians to find …mselves in the position they are in at …sent. (Hear, hear.) I do not think …wise to say what has been or what might …ve been; it is always better to say what …nd see what we are to do in the future, …t with regard to Russia, if I were …Russian I should use the very best …orts I could to place myself in Peking …d then the Yangtze, provided I had no …re opposition than they have found at …sent in getting to Newchwang and Port …thur. What did I find at Newchwang? I …s alarmed to find the British community …re rather hapless. They were sitting …wn and saying: "Now what do you think …will get out of our property when …ssia owns Manchuria? Do you think …ssia will allow us to do this and that? …ould you take home a resolution to say …t we hope Russia will allow us this and …t?" I remarked, we do not hold the …itish empire by such feminine policy as …t. (Cheers.) I said: "Sit down and draft …rong resolution to the Government and …them how things are, and if you want …ne definite and declared policy say what …want to be done in the future." That …what I told them. (Laughter, and hear, …r.) Again I say I do not blame …ssia at all for what she is doing; I should …tainly do the same if I were a Russian. …aughter.) What I found was this, …t the Russians are ignoring the …toms altogether, that is to say, …amers consigned to them go in and …Custom officials go on board, and …y are ordered not to interfere with …m in any way whatever, and the …ssians have nothing to do with the …toms. Then I found there is no Consul …re; the only person is a military officer, …of course, if referred to in cases of …iculty, he would say he was not a Consul. …whole country I went through was …of armed Cossacks. There may be …essity for some supervision over the …nese to protect the railway and see …t they do not run away with sleepers—…tainly one would imagine rather incon…ient things—(laughter) but I heard no …sonable suggestion why the whole …ntry should be full of armed Cossacks. …Port Arthur I hear there have been …e seventy guns mounted, and there is …erish anxiety to get the railway finished. …sked one of the Russians I met—they …e everywhere most kind and courteous …me—what was the meaning of these …parations, and he said it was necessary …protect the trade. I have taken the …ible to look up their trade and I was …ounded to find that in two years the …ssian trade proper has been carried by …e steamers, and on examination to find …t these steamers carried I found that …three carried sea-weed. (Laughter.) …se three steamers paid the duty, but …re were thirteen others which came in …h railway material which paid nothing …n your humble servant—is the dispatch which was put before the House of Commons, dated the 11th of February, 1898. This dispatch was from the Chinese Government in answer to one from Sir Claude Macdonald. It ran: "The British Minister would be glad to be in a position to communicate to their Majesty's Government a definite assurance that China would never alienate any territory in the provinces adjoining the Yangtze to any other Power." "To any other Power" would naturally lead one to suppose that meant to any other Power but Great Britain, and that we were the Power to have such sphere of influence, but when I questioned Sir Claude Macdonald I found that it is nothing of the sort and that we are included in the other Powers. So as matters are we have not got one single sod in China which belongs to us as a "sphere of influence," although the people at home think they have, barring the lease of Weihaiwei, and the addition to Hongkong at Mirs Bay. What is the position of other countries? I think we may say, without exaggeration, Russia has got a very extensive sphere of influence; I think we may say Germany has; but the Great British nation, with 68 per cent of the whole trade in its hands, has no sphere of influence, and so far as the North is concerned there is no open door. Is that the position we are to remain in? I think not. (Loud cheers.) There is no doubt, to my mind, what Russia has in her mind, and I again say she is quite right if she can do it—she has in her mind that her sphere of influence will shortly extend to Peking. On the other hand the French sphere of influence comes in under a term which I could never understand called the *hinterland*, and the *hinterland* in the South happens to border on Hongkong. How that will do I do not know—well, I rather do know. (Laughter and cheers.) You must remember our neighbours in France are very much addicted to *hinterland*. (Laughter.) They took a very large amount of *hinterland* in Africa, and, as far as I can make out, the *hinterland*, as applied to Africa, certainly means the whole country except the port. (Laughter.) I referred just now to the position of the Chinese government, and, so far as we can see at present it is absolutely powerless to control the people. I am not one of those who think they know everything about China because I am here from Saturday to Monday (laughter), but I have formed an opinion of the people and it is based on what many of you have told me. I am assured that the word of the Chinese trader is as good as his bond, and from what I am told I believe there is a great deal of good in China. Then as to their being fighting men, I need only refer to Ikotanga, General Tso, Admiral Ting, and the Hongkong coolies who showed what they could do on the scaling ladder at Taku. You must not judge them by the Japanese war. Men have told me that they saw coolies being given guns and rifles of every continental pattern, with any kind of ammunition from muzzle-loading to pistol. What would you do under the circumstances? I myself should beat a masterly retreat to the rear.

…German mail of the 17th of …
on Saturday. The f… …
from Ceylon and …

Major …
…

…s to Li Hung Chang's Yellow

Inland Marine Daily returns in the Imperial is taken for Chingping Kwan in the prefecture of Yuen, in the province of Kwei-chi, not in Kuichow prefecture, as stated in our telegram from Chungking in Saturday's paper.

The Director of Shanghai Observatory reports:—Saturday, 19th November, 10 a.m. *State of the atmosphere on the 19th.*—The pressure is rising generally over China and S. coast. *State on the morning of the 19th.*—The barometer is rising rather rapidly at Shanghai, but the pressure is still below the average. Fine weather. Sunday, 20th November, 10 a.m.—*State of the atmosphere on the 20th.*—The barometer is rising everywhere in China. A depression approaches the centre of Saghalien island. Overcast but fairly fine weather at Shanghai.—*State on the morning of the 20th.*—Overcast and misty weather. The barometer has not yet attained the normal mean.—Two telegrams have been received here from Manila *via* Hongkong without hour or date. The first runs: "Sign of another depression to the E.S.E.; direction uncertain." The second is: "Typhoon now to the E.N.E., will probably recurve on the Pacific."—*Probabilities, 4 p.m.*—Uncertain weather but likely to improve. Moderate to fresh wind N. to N.E.

We have received Hongkong papers to the 16th inst.—The Governor-General of Iloilo has wired to the Spanish Consul at Hongkong: "Beg clear vessels only for Cuba, Iloilo, and Zamboanga, not for other ports."—News had been received with great regret of the death at Heidelberg on the 11th inst. of Mr. Julius Kramer, a partner in the firm of Arnhold, Karberg & Co.—Mr. Jackson's engagement as chief manager of the great local bank expires in February next, but he has consented to prolong it for another year.—Bishop Hoare was enthroned in the Cathedral, Hongkong, on the 12th instant.—Bangkok has been blessed by the birth of a French weekly newspaper, *Le Siam*, which is going to make things lively for the approaching governance of the unfortunate country of which France, it seems, has not absorbed nearly enough.—Mr. Cowen, a Hongkong journalist, has been shot in the back of the neck in Manila, and is going into hospital in Hongkong.—Piratical attacks in Chinese waters near Hongkong continue to be reported.—The *Glenacon* is bringing to Hongkong 300 tons of warlike stores, chiefly ammunition.—Admiral Dewey has permitted the steamer *Buenos Aires* to return to Spain with 900 invalided Spanish soldiers.

The *Engineering News* publishes an important statement in reference to the present status and probable future of the Panama Canal by General Henry L. Abbot of the Engineer Corps of the United States

[illegible] to learn from the [illegible] that the second Ballad Concert will be given at the Lyceum on St. Andrew's Eve, the 29th instant, at 8.30 p.m. and will be appropriately devoted to Scottish music. Seats will be obtainable at Messrs. Moutrie's [illegible]

A correspondent sends us the following interesting note from the Mexico correspondence of the *Boston Herald*:

[illegible] A young Mexican engineer, educated at the Chapultepec Military Academy, was recently working for a company down in the isthmus of Tehuantepec. He had some Chinese labourers, and to his astonishment found that they could converse with the native Indians of, I think, the Zapotecan tribe. Let the linguistic experts follow up this interesting trail. The Japanese claim to have found a tribe in Tepic who speak a sort of Japanese.

Where, asks the *N. Y. Nation*, are the remains of Christopher Columbus? He died at Valladolid May 20th, 1506, and was buried there. His remains were afterwards transferred to the Carthusian Monastery of Las Cuevas, Seville. In 1536 they were removed to San Domingo and interred in the cathedral there. The records of the cathedral were destroyed by fire in 1675. In 1795 San Domingo was ceded to France, and the remains of Columbus or of some other person buried there were transferred [illegible] to the cathedral at Havana. Nobody is able to affirm that these were the remains of Columbus, but they answered every purpose of national pride and gratitude. Now they are to be sent back to Spain, but nobody knows now any better than before whether they are the real relics of Columbus or not. Yet they will answer the purposes of national feeling just as well now as they did one hundred and three years ago. Surely we ought not to begrudge Spain any comfort she can gain from the bones of Columbus whether genuine or otherwise; and one voyage more will do the old navigator no harm.

The two following notes are from the *Globe*:—

Those who are anxious [illegible] is not that England should [illegible] France in establishing railway communication with South-Western China will derive no small pleasure from the Administration *Report on Indian Railways*. Although the work of construction between Mandalay and Kaulon Ferry, on the Salween River, made comparatively slow progress during the latter portion of 1897, with 1898 came a renewal of activity which has already accomplished great things. All the earthwork and some of the numerous bridges for about one-half of the whole distance are finished, and it was hoped when the report was compiled that before the end of the year the finishing touches would be given to this portion of the line. At first the scarcity of labour was so great that coolies had to be imported from India, but that is no longer necessary, the natives having proved themselves far better workers. The result is that construction goes on much more quickly than was previously the case, even brick-making for the bridges being performed by [illegible] labour

[illegible] Yü Chang, Taotai of Kiukiang (Nanking), is hereby promoted to Governor of Honan vice Li Shu-hsi, transferred.

(Note.—Yü Chang is younger brother to Li Hung-chang, Viceroy of Chihli, and nephew to Tang Lu.—*The N. C. Daily News*).

THE NEW TREASURER OF KIANGSU.

Chang Shou-hua, Provincial Judge (Niehpi), is hereby promoted Treasurer of Kiangsu (Nanking) *vice* Yü Chang promoted.

SHOOTING.

"B" Co. Monthly Cups.

The November competition for the above took place on Saturday at 700 and 800 yards' ranges, the highest scorers being Col.-Sergt. Peace in "A" Class, with 35 points, and Corp. C. Grant in "B" Class, with 36 points. The latter wins the "B" Class Cup for the third time, and now becomes his absolute property. There were 14 competitors.

SHANGHAI FOOTBALL CLUB.

The first match of the season between the Shanghai Football Club and the Imperial Maritime Customs under Rugby Union Rules was played on Saturday afternoon between the following teams:—

S. F. C.	I. M. C.
Backs.	*Backs.*
S. Gilmour.	Dr. Cox.
Halfbacks.	*Halfbacks.*
T. E. Brady.	Richardson.
A. K. Cooper.	Smythe.
A. L. Hall.	Tulloch.
J. W. Cameron.	*¼ Backs.*
¼ Backs.	Sandercock.
A. E. Alger.	Sweeting.
A. E. Lanning.	*Forwards.*
Forwards.	Bruce.
A. E. Baker.	Wilson.
W. H. Bell.	Mansher.
A. E. Rainsford.	McGregor.
H. H. Kopsch.	Dawson.
F. A. Rickard.	McKenzie.
H. A. Stewart.	Lawrence.
G. F. Lanning.	Andrews.
C. B. Adamson.	McLoughlin.

The game was certainly an enjoyable one although the members were somewhat out of form and lacked combination as is usual at the beginning of a season. W. H. Moule, owing to the slowness of the ground did not give the exhibition to which he [illegible] and A. E. Lanning made the "run" of the season in the first half successfully dodging the opponents' backs and eventually placing the ball well between the "sticks." Of players worthy of note we may also mention for the Shanghai team Bell, Kopsch, Rainsford, Rickard and H. A. Stewart; and for the Customs, Andrews, Bruce, McGregor, McKenzie, McLoughlin and Wilson. Dr. Cox "full back" rendered good service for the latter team, and we may we forget Tulloch who showed as well as "three-quarters." The Customs fought hard, but lacking combination allowed the Shanghai men to win by two goals and five tries to nil.

SHANGHAI GOLF CLUB.

The formal opening of the new [illegible]

No. 104

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 30th, 1898.

Acknd
Jan 27/99

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Memorial of fifty-two Protestant missionaries concerning the inundations of the Yellow river. Copy of correspondence with the Tsungli Yamen. Newspaper clipping as to Li Hung Chang's Yellow river mission.

No. 104

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 30th, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

I have the honor to enclose herein a copy of a memorial concerning the Yellow river inundations received through our Consul at Chefoo, and of my correspondence concerning the same had with the Tsungli Yamen.

This memorial, by the advice and consent of my English and German colleagues, was transmitted directly to the Tsungli Yamen, instead of through the Diplomatic Corps.

I also called on and informally discussed the matter with Li Hung Chang, who starts today on his Yellow river mission, which I have already reported to the Department in my despatch No. 96, dated the 18th instant.

I also enclose a clipping from the North China Daily News

News of November 24th, giving some account of Li Hung Chang's appointment, and his proposed operations thereunder.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

Enclosures:

1. Memorial of Protestant missionaries, and map* showing inundated district.
2. Mr. Conger to the Tsungli Yamen, No. 40, Nov. 16, 1898.
3. The Tsungli Yamen to Mr. Conger, Nov. 22nd, 1898.
4. Clipping from the North China Daily News of November 24th, 1898.

* Map was sent to War Dept as an enclosure to State Department's letter of Jan. 27/99.

D. T. C.

1/27

Enclosure / in depatch No. 104

American Presbyterian Mission (North)

Shantung, China.

To the Foreign Legations, Peking:-

The Protestant Missionaries, British, American, Swedish and German, resident in Shantung and Henan Provinces, in conference assembled at Wei Hien (Oct. 15-23, 1898) unanimously passed the following overture:-

We desire to draw the attention of the Diplomatic Body in Peking to the immense loss of life, property and money caused by the frequently recurring out-breaks of the Yellow River. The destruction of life and property it would be difficult to estimate. At the present time there are large tracts of land under water, which should be affording sustenance to thousands of the population. Thousands are not only destitute of food and clothing, but are homeless and without shelter from the approaching winter. Grain has been washed away or spoiled; animals drowned or sold for present means of subsistence, household utensils and building materials are being sold to meet the necessities of the owners thus suddenly rendered destitute by the flood. But we would respectfully draw attention to the larger questions connected with the outbreaks of the Yellow River: Their frequent recurrence; the many appeals made and so nobly responded to both by foreigners and natives; the great sums of money used by the Government for the relief of the suffering people; and the still more enormous sums constantly set aside by the Government for the repairing of damages and in the attempt to conserve the river.

We are so impressed by the gravity of these facts and the suffering of the people that we cannot bu hope that Your Excellencies will be moved, but for the sake of humanity, to do what is possible to urge upon the Chinese Government the necessity of trying new plans for controlling the waters of the

Enclosure 1 in dispatch No. 104

American Presbyterian Mission (North)

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We are so impressed by the gravity of these facts and the suffering of the people that we cannot but hope that Your Excellencies will be moved, but for the sake of humanity, to do what is possible to urge upon the Chinese Government the necessity of trying new plans for controlling the waters of the

the Yellow River.

The methods hitherto adopted have proved quite inadequate and are of doubtful utility. Your petitioners respectfully suggest that the Chinese Government be pressed to appoint a commission of foreign experts to make a full investigation and report on the best means of preventing these calamities and of utilizing these waters, which we feel assured might thus cease to be an unmitigated evil and become a source of material prosperity.

We have no technical knowledge at our disposal but venture to suggest that a series of reservoirs or lakes among the mountains of Southwest Shansi; the construction of one or more additional outlets or channels to provide for overflows; the partial straightening of some of the bends in the present river; the utilizing of old river beds in Honan, Kiang-su, and Shantung;-may help in the solution of a problem which is admittedly a difficult one.

In conclusion we would point out at that at present the Yellow River is practically valueless for commercial purposes. Only junks of light draft can navigate the river,and so,what should be a valuable natural highway is almost useless. A glance at the map will show how great its utility would be,if, under a proper system conservation,it were made to subserve the interests of the country at large.

Respectfully submitted.

(Signed by order of the conference.) F.H.Chalfant.

Secretary.

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Respectfully submitted.

(Signed by order of the conference.) B.H.Chalfant.

Secretary.

Enclosure 2 in despatch No. 104

No. 40.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Peking, China, November 16th, 1898.

At the request of a conference of all the Protestant Missionaries in provinces of Shantung and Honan, recently held at Wei Hsien, the Undersigned, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America, has the honor to transmit to Your Highness and Your Excellencies, a memorial unanimously adopted at said conference.

The memorial is an earnest prayer, by eye witnesses, in behalf of the Thousands who suffer by the frequently recurring outbreaks of the Yellow River, and it is forwarded by the Undersigned for such consideration as Your Highness and Your Excellencies may see fit to give it.

Noting with pleasure the active interest the Chinese Government is now taking in this matter, the Undersigned ventures to think that something of value may be obtained from the timely and intelligent suggestions made in this document.

(Signed) E. H. Conger.

To

His Highness, Prince Ching,

and Their Excellencies of the Tsungli Yamen,

etc. etc. etc.

Enclosure 5 in despatch No. 40

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Peking, China, November 16th, 1898.

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His Highness, Prince Ching,

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etc. etc. etc.

Enclosure 3 in despatch No. 104

THE TSUNGLI YAMEN TO MR. CONGER.

No.31. Peking, November 22nd, 1898.

Your Excellency:

We have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's note, wherein you state that "at the "request of a conference of all the Protestant missionaries in "the provinces of Shantung and Honan, you have the honor to "transmit a memorial adopted at said conference. The memorial "is an earnest prayer, by eye witnesses, in behalf of the "thousands who suffer by the frequently recurring outbreaks "of the Yellow River, and it is forwarded by Your Excellency "for such consideration as the Yamen may see fit to give it. "Noting with pleasure the active interest the Chinese Govern- "ment is taking in this matter, Your Excellency ventures to "think that something of value may be obtained from the timely "and intelligent suggestions made in this document."

The Yamen has thoroughly acquainted itself with the contents of Your Excellency's note and the enclosed memorial. We have considered the several suggestions of said missionaries. They request, that, consequent upon the Yellow River bursting its banks and causing great suffering to Chinese subjects, new plans be devised in order to ward off the calamity of water in the future.

This idea is very good. Moreover now a decree has been received specially appointing Grand Secretary, Li Hung Chang, to proceed and personally examine into and deal with this matter. The manner of transaction in regard to the entire work is wholly to be deliberated and decided upon by the Grand Secretary, Li Hung Chang.

The Yamen has already sent Your Excellency's note to Li Hung Chang for his inspection.

We send this reply for Your Excellency's information.

Enclosure 3 in despatch No.179.

THE TSUNGLI YAMEN TO MR. CONGER.

No.31. Peking, November 22nd, 1898.

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We send this reply for Your Excellency's information.

Enclosure No 4 in Despatch No 104.

PEKING.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

LI'S APPOINTMENT.

Considerable surprise was expressed in foreign circles here when it became known by an edict of the 13th inst., that Li Hung-chang was to go to Shantung to inspect the Yellow River. Some thought this a move to have Li out of Peking for a while. Others thought the Dowager Empress wanted to give Li a billet, that her placing him at the head of a patronage-dispensing office, needing large foreign expenditure, would cause the English animosity against him to subside, and enable her to call him into her Cabinet, where he is badly needed. The truth, however, seems to be, that the Empress realises that she has a paucity of material amongst her present Ministers of ability anything beyond mediocrity, that is very trying. She sent for Li after reading the distressing memorials of Chang Ju-mei, Governor of Shantung, and had a long talk with him; the first private audience he has had with her since 1895.

DUTY BEFORE AGE AND INFIRMITY.

Li pleaded age and infirmity as an excuse, but the Empress Dowager assured him she had not another Minister of ability to whom she could confide such an important matter.

She told Li she realised he was infirm in the legs and advised his travelling by easy stages to Chinanfu, the capital of Shantung, where he could consult with Chang Ju-mei as well as with the Taotai in charge of the river works. Li assured her Majesty he would do the best he could.

FOREIGN ASSISTANCE NECESSARY.

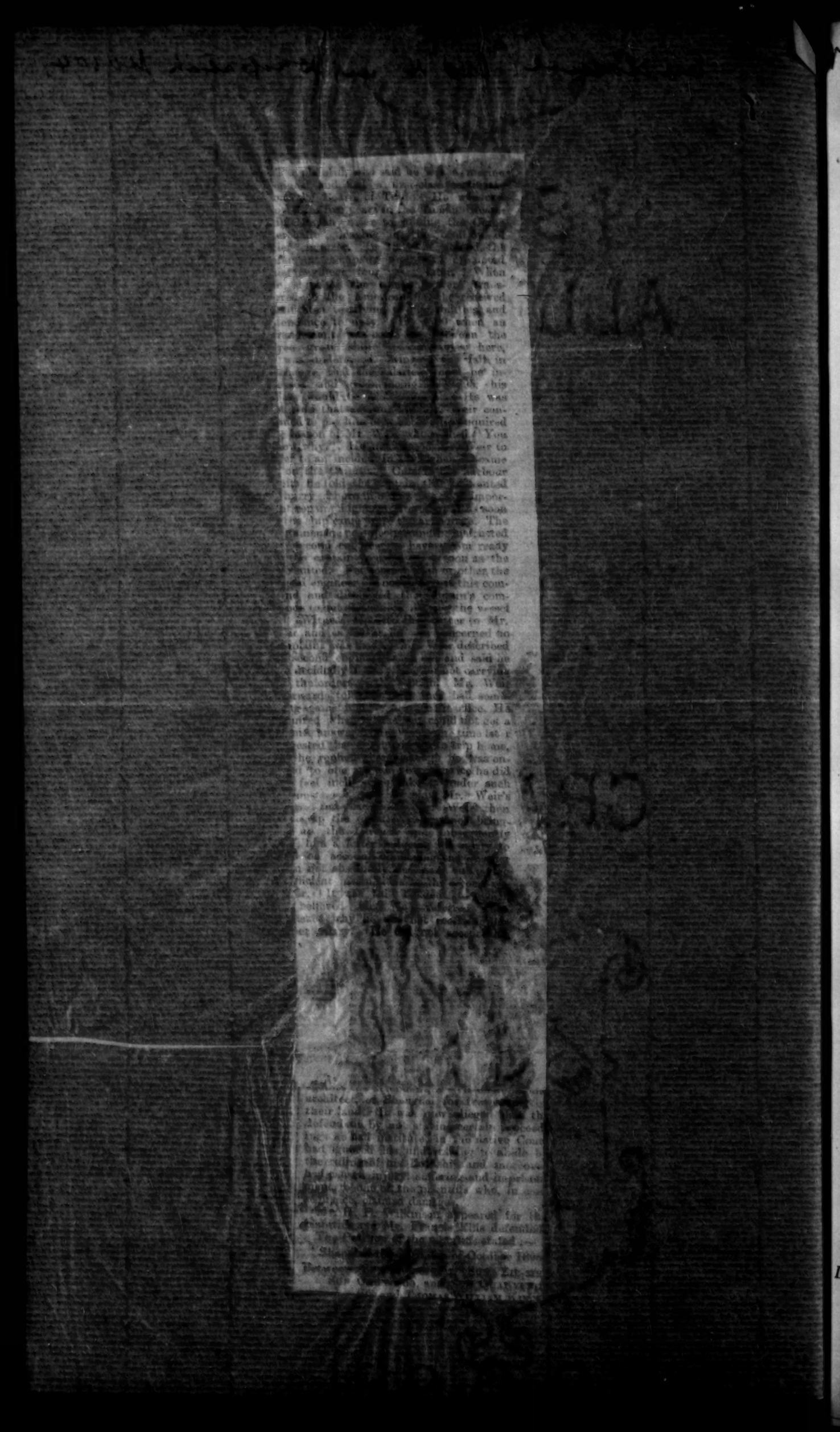
On his return home he wired the Chinese Ministers at Washington and London directing them to secure from the Governments to which they are accredited all information possible in regard to the control of the Mississippi, Nile, Ganges, and Irrawaddy. He also communicated with an English officer here in Peking and from him obtained the addresses of the authorities in India and Burma who could place information at his disposal.

LI'S IDEAS.

Li is a very old man to make this trip with winter coming on. He has stated in advance that the only possible solution of the Yellow River difficulty is in having a commission of foreign engineers in charge of it. Doubtless he will be still more confirmed in this opinion after a personal inspection.

THEIR POSSIBLE FATE.

But it is not at all certain that his report will be adopted by the Empress Dowager, for hordes of impecunious and hungry mandarins obtain their livelihood from the annual breaks of "China's Sorrow." Doubtless counter reports will be handed in asserting native competency to deal with the trouble. Such reports backed by bribes may even now, great as is the disaster, be successful.



Form No. 282.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

From Peking, Dec. 1, 1898

Received 6:55 A.M.

To Secy of Navy. Dec. 2

Cont'd Dec. 3.

Hay,

Washington.

Quiet at present but guards should remain. All wish it (?).

Conger.

Deciphered by Chief Clerk

Dec. 1, 1898, 10:25 M.

No. 105

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, December 1st,1898.

Mr.Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Acknowledging receipt of Department's instructions,No.60 to No.65 inclusive,and unnumbered instruction dated October 1st,1898.

(Despatch No.83,November 4th,1898.)

No. 151.

EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Peking, China, December 3rd, 1924.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith, for the information of the Department of State, a copy of a note, dated December 1st, 1924, addressed to the Chinese Minister for Foreign Affairs by the Commissioner of Customs, relative to the abolition of likin and the imposition of surtaxes on imports and exports.

I have the honor to be, Sir, Your obedient servant,

(Signed) J. V. A. MacMurray.

The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Enclosure: Memorandum regarding abolition of likin and imposition of surtaxes, dated December 1st, 1924.

(Despatch No. 1151, December 4th, 1924.)

No. 105

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, December 1st, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

Referring to my despatch No. 83 of November 4th last,- I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of Department's instructions No. 50 to No. 65 inclusive, and instruction without number, dated October 1st, 1898,

and to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

No. 125.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, December 1st, 1892.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

Referring to my despatch No.83 of November 6th inst.,-

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of Department's

instructions No. 80 to No.82 inclusive, and instructions with-

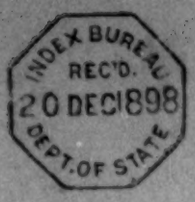
out number, dated October 1st, 1892.

and to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Form No. 282.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.



From Peking, Dec. 2, 1898.

Received 2:30 P.M.

Dec. 3 1898
Answered by telegraph
D.C.

Hay,

Washington.

With reference to Taulman trial the Legation has not record appointment Williams Vice Consul, Canton, hence has not obtained exequatur.

Conger.

Cont'd Dec 13

Deciphered by Chief Clerk

Dec. 2, 1898, 3:45 P.M.

No. 106

DIPLOMATIC,
JAN
INDEX BUREAU
RECD
19 JAN '99
DEPT. OF STATE

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
Ack + file
(Premature to publish before confirmation)
JAN 19 1899

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, December 3rd, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Ackd Jan 25/99 C

Subject: Copy of preliminary contract made by Mr. Pritchard Morgan which gives him control of all mining privileges in the Province of Szechuen.

No. 109

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Peking, China, December 3rd, 1900.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Copy of preliminary contract made by Mr. Pritchard Morgan which gives him control of all mining privileges in the Province of Honanfu.

No. 106

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, December 3rd, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

I have the honor to enclose copy of a preliminary contract which, if it shall receive Imperial approval, grants practical control of all mining privileges in the Province of Szechuen.

Mr. Morgan is just starting an exploiting party to take a cursory look at the Province, and is including in it a young American, Mr. Ferguson from Pittsburg, Pa., with whom he has agreed that if any Americans desire to join the enterprise they may do so upon the same conditions as himself, ie as original parties to the contract.

The Province of Szechuen is reputed rich in minerals, precious metals and petroleum, but it is very far inland, is

permeated

permeated with a strong anti-foreign sentiment,and I apprehend the real value of the concession will be found in the promotion of corporate organization thereunder,rather than in actual mining developments.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E H Conger

Enclosure:

Copy of contract as above.

Enclosure No. — in Despatch No. 106

Copy of Preliminary Contract for Mining in Szechuen provinces:

Preliminary Contract entered into this 28th day of November, 1898, between the Hwa Y Company who have received the consent of the Bureau of Mining of Szechuan to form themselves into a company and William Pritchard Morgan and Company of London for co-operating in the opening of the mines in the Province of Szechuan.

1. The Hwa Y Company on their part will find the money to buy or rent all the lands which may be necessary for mining purposes and carry on all necessary negotiations with the officials. William Pritchard Morgan and Company on their part will find the money necessary to open up such mines as may approved of by them and will supply foreign engineers and skilled workmen to open up and work such mines properly for the benefit of the Central Government and people.

2. This preliminary Contract will be followed by a final contract and after the signing of the final contrast William Pritchard-Morgan Company will send engineers to search for suitable mines other than those already at work by the Chinese people whereupon the Hwa Y Company will

arrange

Enclosure No. 1 in Despatch No. 129

Copy of Preliminary Contract for Mining in Szechuan provinces:

Preliminary Contract entered into this 25th day of November, 1898, between the Hwa Y Company who have received the consent of the Bureau of Mining of Szechuan to form themselves into a company and William Pritchard Morgan and Company of London for co-operating in the opening of the mines in the Provinces of Szechuan.

1. The Hwa Y Company on their part will find the money to buy or rent all the lands which may be necessary for mining purposes and carry on all necessary negotiations with the officials. William Pritchard Morgan and Company on their part will find the money necessary to open up such mines as may approved of by them and will supply foreign engineers and skilled workmen to open up and work such mines properly for the benefit of the Central Government and people.

2. This preliminary Contract will be followed by a final contract and after the signing of the final contract William Pritchard-Morgan Company will send engineers to search for suitable mines other than those already at work by the Chinese people whereupon the Hwa Y Company will arrange

arrange with the landowners to purchase or rent the lands required for mining purposes. Thereupon William Pritchard-Morgan and Company will work the mines in a proper and workmanlike manner.

3. Inasmuch as the Hwa Y Company provide the money to purchase or rent the lands they will receive as rent five percent of the value of the product of each individual mine when brought to the surface and ready for sale.

4. The Chinese as well as other nationalities shall be entitled to purchase shares of the Company to be formed by William Pritchard-Morgan and Company at market prices.

5. All iron and coal mines and petroleum shall pay five per cent to the Government of the value of the product when brought to the surface and ready for sale, but the amount of royalty to be paid to the Government on other minerals and metals still remains to be settled.

6. Government taxes will be payable upon these mines in like manner as other mines in China.

7. William Pritchard-Morgan and Company will find the money necessary for opening such mines as may be approved of by them but in no case shall a sum exceeding ten

million

arrange with the landowners to purchase or rent the lands required for mining purposes. Thereupon William Pritchard-Morgan and Company will work the mines in a proper and workmanlike manner.

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6. Government taxes will be payable upon these mines in like manner as other mines in China.

7. William Pritchard-Morgan and Company will find the money necessary for opening such mines as may be approved of by them but in no case shall a sum exceeding ten million

million taels be advanced. Six per cent interest is to be charged upon all capital advanced after which ten per cent of the amount of the capital will be set aside yearly as a Sinking Fund to reduce interest. Out of the net profits twenty-five per cent will be paid to the Government on coal iron and petroleum mines. The amount of royalty to be paid to the Government on other minerals and metals remains to be settled. The remainder of the profits to be divided pro rata between the shareholders of the Company to be formed by William Pritchard-Morgan and Comapany.

8. As it may be necessary to erect machinary and works for manufacturing and other purposes connected with mining other than those required for mining purposes only and as it may be necessary to acquire lands for the purpose of building roads and railways (such railways being mining railways only) the Hwa Y Company will acquire for and at the expense of William Pritchard-Morgan Company at a reasonable price such lands as may reqdired for such purposes.

9. The final contract shall be approved by the chief commissioners of mines and railways and shall be presented to the Throne for sanction and shall be signed within seven calendar months from the date of signing this preliminary contract and in the event of such final contract not being signed.

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8. As it may be necessary to erect machinery and works for manufacturing and other purposes connected with mining other than those required for mining purposes only and as it may be necessary to acquire lands for the purpose of building roads and railways (such railways being mining railways only) the Hwa Y Company will acquire for and at the expense of William Pritchard-Morgan Company at a reasonable price such lands as may required for such purposes.

9. The final contract shall be approved by the chief commissioners of mines and railways and shall be presented to the Throne for sanction and shall be signed within seven calendar months from the date of signing this preliminary contract and in the event of such final contract not being signed.

signed within the period specified or such extended period as may be mutually agreed upon this contract shall be null and void.

10. The Hwa Y Company will not enter into any preliminary or other contracts with reference to the Province of Szechuen during the existence of this preliminary contract.

11. Shares in the mining company to be formed by William Pritchard-Morgan and Company for the purpose of raising the capital for working the mines have been subscribed for by Chinese as well as foreigners.

12. Neither the Chinese Government nor the Hwa Y Company will be responsible for any losses occasioned by the working of any of the mines.

13. This preliminary contract entered into between William Pritchard-Morgan and Company and the Hwa Y Company shall be recorded by the Bureau of Mines in Szechuan in the Tsungli Yamen and in the offices of the Chief Commissioner of Mines.

14. The Mining Company to be formed by William Pritchard-Morgan and Company and the Hwa Y Company will perform all regulations in force for the working of mines.

(Signed Peking, November 25th,1898,)

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10. The Hwa Y Company will not enter into any preliminary or other contracts with reference to the Provinces of Szechuen during the existence of this preliminary contract.

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(Signed Pekin, November 25th, 1898.)

No. 107

DIPLOMATIC

JAN 19 1899

BUREAU

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, December 3rd, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Confirming Department's telegram of the 2nd instant. Boston will sail soon. Marine guards at Peking.

No. 107

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, December 3rd, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

I have the honor to confirm, on the overleaf, the Department's telegram of the 2nd instant received today, in which I am informed that if the marines do not leave Peking before navigation closes they must remain here indefinitely.

and to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

TELEGRAM RECEIVED.(CIPHER)

WASHINGTON,DECEMBER 2ND,1898.

CONGER,

MINISTER,

PEKING.

BOSTON SAILS SOON. IF MARINES DO NOT RETURN BEFORE NAVIGATION CLOSES THEY MUST REMAIN AT PEKING INDEFINITELY.

(SIGNED.) HAY.

DEPT. OF STATE.
DEC-4,12 07 PM 1898
CHF. CLKS. OFFICE

TELEGRAM RECEIVED.

IWVWA IO.

From PEKING,

Dec. 4, , 1898

Received 4:00AM.

INDEX BUREAU REC'D. 5 DEC 1898 DEPT. OF STATE

3rd. ASST. SECRETARY DEC 5 1898

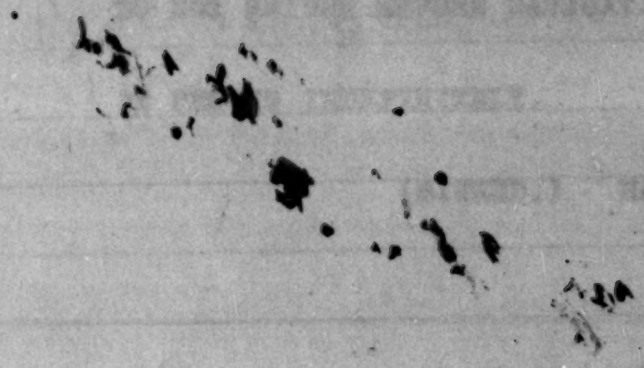
CRIDLER,

Washington.

Send box Baltimore Ohio Depot next pouch.

Squiers.

Bookstaver
Letter
Received from Mr.
Jan. 3/99



PRINTED IN ADVANCE SHEETS NO. 355

DIPLOMATIC,
JAN 19 1899

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
Acknowledge & send to Mr. Conger.
JAN 19 1899

No. 108

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D.
18 JAN '99
DEPT. OF STATE

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, December 6th, 1898.

Acknowledged and sent to Bureau of Foreign Commerce Jan. 27/99

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Regulations for Mines and Railways prepared by the Bureau of Control for Mines and Railways.

No. 108

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, December 6th, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C .

Sir:-

For the information of the Department, I have the honor to enclose a translation of the Regulations for Mines and Railways prepared by the Bureau of Control for Railways and Mines and which received the approval of the Emperor on the 19th ultimo.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

Enclosure:

Regulations as above.

Enclosure with Despatch No. 108

Chinese Government Regulations for Railways and Mines. The memorial sent up to the Throne from the Tsungli Yamen with these Regulations states that some time ago Hu Chu-fen memorialized the Throne setting forth the necessity for such Regulations and that on the 24th of October the Tsungli Yamen also sent up a memorial on the same subject. They now submit the following Regulations which have been drawn up by them with a view to protection and encouragement of honest promoters. The Regulations can be amended and altered in the future.

The Imperial Rescript, dated the 19th of November, is: "Let it be as proposed".

1. There are three ways in which railways and mines can be managed; by officials, by merchants, and by the two in combination. The second is the best and will be encouraged and promoted by the Government as much as possible in the future. The officials should do all in their power to encourage such enterprises, but will not be allowed to conduct them themselves.

2. All such enterprises for which contracts have not been completed before the establishment of the Government Board must be sent up to the Throne for sanction, but from the date of the establishment of the said Board they will be subject to the Regulations of the Board. Such enterprises which have been previously arranged will not be allowed to form precedents.

3. The mines and railways of Manchuria, Shantung, and Lungchou are affected by international relations and therefore will not be allowed to form precedents either for Chinese or foreigners.

4. Railways and mines are entirely separate affairs, and therefore must not be worked in combination. Railway agreements giving mining rights along the route will not in future be allowed to form precedents. In cases where

permission

Enclosure with Despatch No. 108

Chinese Government Regulations for Railways and Mines.

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2. All such enterprises for which contracts have not been completed before the establishment of the Government Board must be sent up to the Throne for sanction, but from the date of the establishment of the said Board they will be subject to the Regulations of the Board. Such enterprises which have been previously arranged will not be allowed to form precedents.

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4. Railways and mines are entirely separate affairs and therefore must not be worked in combination. Railway agreements giving mining rights along the route will not in future be allowed to form precedents. In cases where permission

permission is given to mining companies to construct branch railways to connect with waterways and for the the purpose of carrying the produce of the mines, such lines must only be carried as far as the nearest water communication. Such railways must not carry passengers or cargo so as to interfere with the profits of other lines. Plans of such proposed railways must be submitted to the Government for approval.

5. All mining and railway companies must provide a sc school of instruction, as already ordered by the Throne.

6. When applications are made by Chinese gentry or merchants to the local officials for permission to engage in mining or railway enterprise, the said officials must enquire into the character and standing of the applicants, and if the latter are found to be reliable people and their applications are not in opposition to the Regulations they may be submitted to the Government Board. The local officials have no power to grant such applications. If such applications are made to the Board direct, enquiries must be made through the officials of the applicants' district, and only such applications will be granted in which the report of the local authorities is of a favorable nature.

7. When it is necessary to acquire land for mining and railway purposes the people must be notified by the local authorities, and the former must not show wanton opposition. When land is so acquired houses and graves must be respected so as not to offend the feelings of the people.

8. All enterprises sanctioned by the Board must be commenced within six months of the date of sanction, otherwise, the sanction will be withdrawn, unless it can be shown that the delay was unavoidable.

9. In all cases every endeavor must be made to have the

Chinese

permission is given to mining companies to construct
tramway railways to connect with waterways and for the the
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Chinese

Chinese proportion of the capital of such enterprise the greater. There must be at least a proportion of three-tenths of the shares owned by Chinese. When this proportion has been raised foreigners may be invited to buy shares or foreign money may be borrowed. Sanction will not be given in cases where all the money employed is foreign.

10. When it is proposed to borrow foreign money the sanction of the Board must first be asked. If such sanction is given, the loan must be regarded as being made by merchants and to be repaid by merchants — that is to say, the Chinese Government will accept no responsibility. If loans are concluded without the sanction of the Board they will not be recognized, even though an agreement has been signed.

11. In case of foreign loans, the preliminary agreements must be submitted to the Board for their approval. If such agreements are contrary to these Regulations, they will be sent back for amendment. In case they are not amended properly negotiations may be entered into with other parties. Should foreign merchants enter into private contracts for loans and thereby suffer loss, the Tsungli Yamen and the Board will not help them recover their money.

12. When Chinese companies are authorized to borrow foreign money the Board will advise the Tsungli Yamen, which will communicate with the Minister of the Power concerned, who will reply, and their permission will then be considered to be given. When foreign merchants are desirous of lending money to Chinese companies they must request their Minister to communicate with the Tsungli Yamen, who will ask the Board if the company is authorised to borrow and will reply accordingly to the Minister.

Money

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fifths of the shares owned by Chinese. When this proportion has been reached foreigners may be invited to buy shares or foreign money may be borrowed. Sanction will not be given in cases where all the money employed is foreign.

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Money

Money lent in any other way will be treated as a private loan.

13. In order to protect the sovereing rights of China the control of all railways and mining companies, irrespective of the foreign capital concerned, must remain in the hands of the Chinese merchants; but the accounts of such companies must be open to the inspection of foreign shareholders.

14. Promoters professing to have got together a certain amount of capital must show satisfactory proof of their assertion.

15. The local authorities must in all cases encourage and protect mining and railway companies in carrying out their duly authorised enterprises.

16. In case of disputes between companies or any interference with the rights of any company, the local authorities must decide the question fairly. Appeal may be made against their decisions to the Government Board. Should disputes arise between Chinese and foreign merchants in connection with railway or minign enterprises they must be settled by arbitration: the Governments concerned will not interfere.

17. Foreign engineers and surveyors sent to inspect mines and railways must be protected by the local authorities.

18. Rewards will be given to Chinese merchants investing 500,000 taels and upwards in mining or railway enterprises, or doing extra good work in connection therewith.

19. All such enterprises will be granted a monopoly of their undertakings for a fixed period to be determined by the circumstances of the case.

20. Customs stations will be established on all railways for the levy of duties. The duties on mining produce and

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20. Customs stations will be established on all railways for the levy of duties. The duties on mining produce and

on

on the export of the same will be decided by the Government Board in conjunction with the Board of Revenue, which will draw up Regulations for submission to the Throne. The proportion of profits to be paid to the Government for railways will be four-tenths, and for mines 25%, to be handed to the Board of Revenue.

21. The affairs and accounts of each company will be examined from time to time by the Government Board, either by having the books sent to the offices of the Board or by deputing an officer to examine on the spot.

22. A detailed account of the affairs of the railway and mining companies at present in existence must be sent to the Board for their consideration. The Board will also prepare forms for setting forth such details. These will be sent to all the Provinces and must be filled up at the end of each year by such companies and sent to the Board for their inspection.

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at the end of each year by such companies and sent to the
Board for their inspection.

No. 109

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, December 7th, 1898.

Ackd Jan. 31/99 J

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Dr. Yung Wing's concession to build a railway from Tientsin to Chinkiang. Action of Legation in the matter.

(Instructions No. 63, October 15th, 1898.)

No. 109

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Peking, China, December 7th, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

Acknowledging receipt of Department's instructions No.63 of October 15th, enclosing copies of despatches from Consul General Goodnow and Consul Fowler, on the subject of a Railroad Concession from Tientsin to Chinkiang, I beg to say, that Dr. Yung Wing did obtain a concession for such a railroad, but as already reported by my predecessor, the terms of the Kiaochou lease to the Germans gave them practical control of all roads to be built in the province of Shantung, and as this railroad was to traverse the entire province of Shantung, Germany objected. Dr. Yung Wing then proposed to run his road around outside of this province, but the line was so circuitous and the conditions under which he had taken

the

No. 1.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Peking, China, December 7th, 1899.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

Acknowledging receipt of Department's instructions No.82 of October 18th, enclosing copies of despatches from Consul General Goodnow and Consul Fowler, on the subject of a Railroad Concession from Pienetsin to Chinkiang, I beg to say, that Mr. Yung Ting did obtain a concession for such a railroad, but as already reported by my predecessor, the terms of the Klaotschau loans to the Germans gave them practical control of all roads to be built in the provinces of Shantung, and so this railroad was to traverse the entire province of Shantung Germany objected. Mr. Yung Ting then proposed to run his road around outside of this province, but the idea was no alternative and the conditions under which he had taken

the concession so onerous that he could get no one to take hold of it.

Among other things it provided for about four million dollars of gratuities, to be paid in advance to various Chinese officials. However, about August 1st last I was privately informed by Li Hung-chang that, if American capital could be induced to take hold of it at once, that the four millions of gratuities could be dispensed with. Acting upon this I telegraphed the American Syndicate in New York, having the Hankow-Canton line, but could not interest them in it. I do not, however, believe that at any time the route around the province of Shantung was feasible, but it was a good leverage to use in securing a union with German capital for building a line direct. There seems to be no doubt that now English and German capital have united to build this line, but there has been no reason why American capital could not have as well joined as the English, if some one had been on the ground with authority to act.

I take occasion to report what I have said in several previous despatches, that up to this time there has been no trouble for American capital to get its full share of contracts or concessions in China, wherever it has made

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I take occasion to report what I have said in several previous despatches, that up to this time there has been no trouble for American capital to get its full share of contracts or concessions in China, whenever it has made

the proper effort.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. A. Conger

No. 110

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, December 9th, 1898.

Rec'd Jan. 30/99

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Present status of Chinese Mines and Railways.

PRINTED IN ADVANCE SHEETS NO. 355.

No. 110

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, December 9th, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

I have the honor to enclose herewith translation of a report on the present status of Chinese Mines and Railways recently made to the throne by the newly organized "Bureau for Control for Mines and Railways."

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

Enclosure:

Report as above.

We are deeply impressed with the wisdom Your Majesty has displayed in this apt use of Sovereign power.

There are several ways of carrying out such works, namely, by the Government alone; by merchants alone; by Government control and merchant management, or by a merchant joint-stock company of Chinese and foreign shareholders free from interference by any foreign Power.

Traffic on the Tientsin-Shanhaikuan and Tientsin-Peking railways is now considerable; yet the Board of Revenue and the Tsungli Yamen have no records of rates of freight per ton or fares for first, second and third class passengers; nor is there any available information about the construction of lines; division of labour; number of trains; time tables; rules enforced on trains; car and engine houses; stations, whether on Government or private land; names of native and foreign employes on the line and in stations, cars, engines and trains, or the total number of freight and passenger cars.

If when the projected lines, namely, Hankow-Peking, Canton-Hankow, Ningpo-Shanghai and Tientsin-Paoting,- open communication with other places they conduct business in this way, treating with indifference the Government which concedes large benefits, where will be the boasted prosperity to the country from introducing railways?

To rectify such abuses now will prevent their accumulation until past all cure.

Such is the present status of the Railway question.

Turning now to Mining provinces: The Mo-ho Gold mine and the Kaiping colliery have been quite successful. The Mo-ho mine sends Taels 200,000 yearly to the Board of Revenue; but as that sum is unsatisfactory, orders have been issued to investigate the accounts. We have only vague information as to the boundaries of this mine, its working rules and the share of Gold allotted to the miners; and the same remarks apply

We are deeply impressed with the wisdom Your Majesty has displayed in this apt use of Sovereign power.

There are several ways of carrying out such works, namely, by the Government alone; by merchants alone; by Government control and merchant management, or by a merchant joint-stock company of Chinese and foreign shareholders free from interference by any foreign Power.

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to mines worked by the Military Governor of the Hei-lung-chiang Province. It is difficult to supervise mines so remote from P°king. Until orders are given for detailed reports to be rendered, no permanent good can be expected from these industries.

The Kaiping colliery had at first great difficulties, but of late years good management has obtained a steady increase of output and coal is exported to the South for sale. The coal is much superior in quality to Japan coal, and if this mine be extended the Government will derive much benefit. As to the proportions of merchant and Government capital invested in this mine; whether or not its cement works will pay; what is the daily and yearly output of coal and what the numbers of native and foreign employes in offices and mines,- orders should be given for full reports to be made on these points.

This is the present condition of Mining operations.

The regulations made this year for coal and iron mining in the provinces of Shansi and Honan were duly considered and reported to the Throne by the Tsungli Yamen. Article 6 levies levies a Government tax of five per cent on the value of the mineral output at the mines; the Maritime Customs tariff duty is also to be paid if the minerals be exported. This rule, designed to benefit the public revenue, should be followed when mines are opened in other provinces. For metalliferous mines other than iron, five per cent is unsifficient, so for those a different rule should be made to increase the revenue.

As soon as this Central Bureau was established by Edict we made investigations in the Board of Revenue and Tsungli Yamen, and then sent to all the provinces to obtain from mining companies copies of their present regulations; and after we have considered them we will report to Your Majesty and ask for a Decree.

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All companies, official or private, organized, but not apply for a Decree, prior of this mine, its working rules and the share to mines worked by the Military Governor of the Hei-lung-chiang Province. It is difficult to supervise mines so remote from Peking. Until orders are given for detailed reports to be rendered, no permanent good can be expected from these industries. The Kaiping colliery had at first great difficulties, but of late years good management has obtained a steady increase of output and coal is exported to the South for sale. The coal is much superior in quality to Japan coal, and if this mine be extended the Government will derive much benefit. As to the proportions of merchant and Government capital invested in this mine; whether or not its cement works will pay; what is the daily and yearly output of coal and what the numbers of native and foreign employes in offices and mines,- orders should be given for full reports to be made on these points. This is the present condition of Mining operations.

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officially approved, before the date of the Edict establishing this Bureau, should be considered unauthorized.

Of late numerous applications for railway and mining concessions have been made, their general purpose being to obtain official authority to serve private schemes, without any regard for the public good or for the future of a concession after it has been gambled with. For instance: the Sung Chu Chai stationery shop in Peking offered to supply Taels 800,000 for railways in Kiangsu and Chekiang provinces. The shop obtained a bank order for the amount as a short loan, the order to be surrendered after having served its purpose for mere exhibition, and one month's interest was to be paid to the bank for its accommodation.

There is no end of such shams. When rejected, abuse follows; if approved, the public would suffer.

We take it that Your Majesty's object in establishing this Bureau is to secure effeciency; hence jobbery cannot be tolerated. To avoid deception and ridicule we shall be on our guard against all such crafty schemes.

As this new office will be a busy one, much time would be lost in looking for a separate location for it. We therefore propose to borrow rooms in the West court yard of the Tsungli Yamen, and will appoint a staff of secretaries, accountants and clerks, whose first duty shall be to digest for future guidance all railway and mining business now on record.

The Bureau will be opened on the 1st day of the 7th month (August 17,1898) and we will confer and report to Your Majesty in future as occasion requires.

A respectful memorial, etc.

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A respectful memorial, etc.

No. 111

Ans Bureau

Dep Bureau - file

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, December 9th, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Copy to Mr. Foster - for his information. Copy to Chefoo. Jan. 21. 99.

Subject: Mr. Fowler's criticisms of the Inland Steam Navigation Regulations.

(Instructions No. 58, October 12th, 1898.)

No. 111

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Peking, China, December 9th, 1898.

To the Honorable,

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

Referring to Department's instructions No.58, of October 12th, I have the honor to report that the letter from Consul Fowler on the subject of Inland Steam Navigation Regulations mentioned therein, was never received at this Legation, but I have since telegraphed for and received a copy thereof, and have given it careful perusal.

Mr. Fowler's criticisms of the Regulations are so numerous, and many of them irrelevant, that I do not deem it wise at this time to bring them to the attention of the Chinese Government. There was some severe criticism by merchants and steam-boat men generally, of the first regulations, but there has been very little since their

revision

No.

IMMIGRATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, December 7th, 1909.

To the Secretary,

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

Referring to Department's Instruction No.88, of October 12th, I have the honor to report that the Letter from Consul Fowler on the subject of Inland Steam Navigation Regulations mentioned therein, was never received at this Legation, but I have since telegraphed for and received a copy thereof, and have given it careful perusal.

Mr. Fowler's criticisms of the Regulations are so unfounded, and many of them so irrelevant, that I do not deem it wise at this time to bring them to the attention of the Chinese Government. There was some severe criticism by merchants and steam-boat men generally, of the first regulations, but these have been very liberally dealt with

revision.

The British Minister informs me that not a single complaint has reached him.

At any rate the regulations themselves recite the fact that they are only tentative, and may be revised or changed as shall be found necessary. It seems to me therefore, that if upon trial, any of the things happen that Mr. Fowler apprehends the time will then be opportune to intelligently take the matter up for revision.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. Conger

Private.

The British Minister has asked me to
telephone for Lansing him.

He says the regulations therefore require the
fuse that they are using temporarily, but can be replaced by
ordered as soon as found necessary. It seems to me
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that he, could approximate the size will then be appropriate
to submit only time be matter to for rectification.

I have the honor to be,

Your obedient servant,

No. 112

DIPLOMATIC,
FEB 7 1899
BUREAU.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
To Secy of War for his information.
So ack. aak
FEB 7 1899

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LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, December 12th, 1898.

Ackd and
Sec'y of War
Feb. 10/99

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Increase in the Chinese army. Imperial decrees on the subject.

No. 112

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China December 12th, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

I have the honor to enclose translations of two Imperial Decrees, promulgated on the 8th instant, concerning the increase of the Chinese army and the manufacture of arms.

The four divisions mentioned in the decree are all stationed in this province (Chihli).

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

Enclosures:

Translations of two decrees as above.

Enclosure / in despatch No. 112

An Imperial Decree published in the Peking Gazette, December 8th, 1898.

I, the Empress Dowager, Tzu-hsi-tuan-yu, etc. etc., have received another memorial from Jung Lu recommending that the Nan and Pei Yang and Hupeh provinces begin immediately the manufacture of arms and make a careful survey of the northern coasts, etc.

The best equipment for the Army is the rapid firing breech loading guns and the small bore Mauser rifles.

There are now arsenals at several places in the Nan and Pei Yang and Hupeh provinces. Let the Governors-General and Governors of said provinces provide ways and means to accomplish this and instruct the under-officials of the various arsenals to make strict investigation and begin immediately the manufacture of guns and rifles. Military maps must also be made. Let the Superintendent of Northern Trade command the Military Schools to make a survey of the Coast and draw up careful charts for the use of the various military districts.

Enclosure 1 in despatch No. 112.

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December 8th, 1898.

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Enclosure 2 in despatch No. 112

Translation of an Imperial Decree published in the Peking Gazette, December 8th, 1898.

I, the Empress Dowager, Tzu-hsi-tuan-yu, etc.etc.,have received a memorial from Jung Lu recommending a general plan for the support and discipline of the Army.

The memorialist requests that Sung Ch'ing and others, Generals of the Right, Left, Front and Rear Divisions of the Army, should station their troops at strategical points and have them well and satisfactorily placed. He also requests that a Central Division of 10,000 men be raised and that a place be selected where they may be stationed and that said memorialist have control of these troops - all of which has been sanctioned.

Taels 400,000 may be taken from the money appropriated for the newly added landed forces and used for the support of this newly raised army and what is still lacking may be taken from the funds which are sent by the various provinces to the Fuchien province dockyards.

Since Generals, Sung Ch'ing and others have the great responsibility of guarding the Court and immediate surroundings there must be no deficiency in the funds for the pay of the soldiers, nor in their rations that the soldiers may be content.

Let the Board of Revenue, according to previous regulations urge the various Customs stations to promptly forward the duties in full. If there is any unnecessary delay the parties are to be severely censured by said high official. There are about 30,000 soldiers among the foreign drilled troops. There may be among these some soldiers who are idle and good for nothing and it would be a pity to spend money to support such. Let Jung Lu

personally

Enclosure 2 in despatch No. 172

Translation of an Imperial Decree published in the Peking Gazette, December 8th, 1898.

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personally investigate the state of affairs and dismiss all useless soldiers and combine the remainder into regiments, and let them all be subject to his orders.

Owing to the present difficulties of the Government the organization of the army and the drilling of troops are matters of the greatest importance. There must be no shirking of responsibility on the part of said high official, but he must in good earnest look into the condition of things and see that the entire army is composed of brave men, in order that it may harmonize with the Court's idea of what an army should be.

Respectfully received.

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Respectfully received.

No. 113

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, December 12th, 1898.

One copy sent by mail
one copy sent to Dr. Com.
Feb 7/99

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Forwarding under separate cover duplicate copies of the Customs Gazette, No. CXIX, July-September, 1898.

No. 113

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LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, December 12th, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

For the information of the department,-I have the honor to transmit, under separate cover, two copies of the Customs Gazette, No. CXIX, July-September, 1898, published by order of the Inspector General of Customs,

and to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

No. 114

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, December 14th, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Ack Mar. 2/99

Subject: The wives of the Foreign Ministers at Peking received by the Empress Dowager on the 13th instant.

No. 114

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, December 14th,1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

I have the honor to report that on yesterday,the 13th instant,the wives of all the foreign Ministers in Peking paid a visit to the Empress Dowager.

They were received in the "I Luan Hall" in the presence of the Emperor and were most cordially welcomed;a brief address was made by the wife of the British Minister,she being of senior rank,and responded to by the Empress Dowager,copies of which are enclosed.

They were then entertained at a most sumptuous breakfast,with Prince and Princess Ching and several other Princesses;at the conclusion of which the Empress Dowager appeared again and presented the Empress;afterwards with some theatricals at which the Empress Dowager was also present, and finally they returned to the banquet hall where,over

cups

cups of fragrant tea and other Chinese delicacies,a cordial leave taking occurred.

This is the first time in the history of China that an Empress or an Empress Dowager has met foreign ladies,and it is to be hoped that some good may result therefrom.

It is believed that it will inspire within the Imperial Palace a desire to see and know more of Western people and Western things;and that when it is once known by the Chinese people generally that the Empress Dowager is herself willing to see and entertain foreigners,some of their antipathy will be allayed.

This audience was brought about,primarily,from a suggestion made last spring to the Empress Dowager by Prince Henry of Prussia,and followed finally by a request made on behalf of the ladies by the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps.

The visit on the part of the ladies was originally intended,and the audience requested for the purpose of felicitating the Empress Dowager on her 64th birthday which occurred the 23rd ultimo;but because of the absence of one of the ladies,and the fact that the new Russian Minister had not then presented his credentials,it was postponed, however to be made for the same purpose.

The occasion is wholly unique,and the record of it

worth

worth preserving.

I enclose a copy of the ceremonial conditions previously agreed upon, and which were substantially carried out.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

Enclosures:

1. Address of wife of British Minister and response of the Empress Dowager.
2. Ceremonial conditions.

Enclosure No: 1 in Despatch No. 114

May it please Your Imperial Majesty

It is with the deepest feelings of respect and pleasure that we, the wives of the Foreign Representatives at Peking, have received Your Imperial Majesty's gracious permission to offer personally our congratulations upon the the 64th birthday of Your Imperial Majesty.

We rejoice exceedingly that Your Imperial Majesty has taken this first step towards a personal acquaintance with the ladies of Foreign Nations. We venture to express the hope that Your August example will be followed by the ladies of China, and that the peoples of the East and West will continue to draw nearer to each other in social intercourse.

Permit us in conclusion to express our most respectful and sincere wishes for Your Imperial Majesty's long continued health and happiness.

Delivered by Lady Mac Donald, Doyenne, to the Empress Dowager at her Audience given to the wives of the Foreign Ministers at Peking on December 13, 1898.

Lady Mac Donald	British Legation.
Baroness Heyking	German Legation.
Madame Yano	Japanese Legation.
Madame Pichon	French Legation.
Madame Conger	United States Legation.
Madame de Giers	Russian Legation.
Madame Knobel	Netherlands Legation.

Enclosure No.1 in Despatch No. 114

May it please Your Imperial Majesty

It is with the deepest feelings of respect and pleasure that we, the wives of the Foreign Representatives at Peking, have received Your Imperial Majesty's gracious permission to offer personally our congratulations upon the 61th birthday of Your Imperial Majesty.

We rejoice exceedingly that Your Imperial Majesty has taken this first step towards a personal acquaintance with the Ladies of Foreign Nations. We venture to express the hope that Your August example will be followed by the Ladies of China, and that the peoples of the East and West will continue to draw nearer to each other in social intercourse.

Permit us in conclusion to express our most respectful and sincere wishes for Your Imperial Majesty's long continued health and happiness.

Delivered by Lady Mac Donald, Doyenne, to the Empress Dowager at her Audience given to the wives of the Foreign Ministers at Peking on December 13, 1898.

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Madame Pichon	French Legation.
Madame Conger	United States Legation.
Madame de Giers	Russian Legation.
Madame Knobel	Netherlands Legation.

Enclosure No. in Despatch No.

A reverent record of the Empress Dowager's reply.

The wives of the Foreign Representatives this day received by me in Audience have presented their united congratulations. Their words were propitious, and pleased me greatly.

China and Foreign Nations are now in harmony, and the World is at peace. My sincere wish is that the wives of the Foreign Representatives may find their sojourn in China agreeable and that all their affairs may prosper.

Enclosure No. in Despatch No.

A reverent record of the Empress Dowager's reply.

The wives of the Foreign Representatives this day received by me in Audience have presented their united congratulations. Their words were propitious, and pleased me greatly. Seeingly that Your Imperial Majesty has taken China and Foreign Nations are now in harmony, and the World is at peace. My sincere wish is that the wives of the Foreign Representatives may find their sojourn in China agreeable, and that all their affairs may prosper.

Peace will continue to draw nearer to each other in social intercourse.

Permit me in consequence to express our most respectful and sincere wishes for Your Imperial Majesty's long continued health and happiness.

Delivered by Lady Mac Donald, Peyenne, to the Empress Dowager at her Audience given to the wives of the Foreign Ministers at Peking on December 12, 1902.

Lady Mac Donald	British Legation.
Baroness Heyking	German Legation.
Madame Yano	Japanese Legation.
Madame Pichon	French Legation.
Madame Conger	United States Legation.
Madame de Giers	Russian Legation.
Madame Knobel	Netherlands Legation.

Enclosure 2 in despatch No. 1114

Ceremonies to be observed on the occasion of the wives of the Foreign Ministers calling upon the Empress Dowager,

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1. In accordance with the ceremonies fixed upon at the request sent to the Tsungli Yamen by the Dean for the various Foreign Ministers requesting an audience, and for the Empress Dowager to fix a day for the same, the Tsungli Yamen returns the reply.

2. At the time fixed upon the Tsungli Yamen will send a guard to each Legation to escort the ladies.

3. Each of the ladies and their interpreters will leave their chairs at the "Chiao Yuan Gate". Thence the interpreters will proceed on foot; the ladies will take chairs carried by two bearers across the bridge to the "Fu Hua Gate". (This distance between gates is about 100 paces.) Thence they will be conveyed in wheeled vechicles to the "Ying Hsiu Gate."

4. Outside of the "Ying Hsiu Gate" at the Imperial rest house they will be met by the Chief Eunuch and Ladies in waiting and served with tea. At the proper time they will proceed (walk) to the "I Luang Hall",- the interpreters accompanying.

5. On entering the "I Luan Hall" each will bow towards the Empress Dowager; and then proceed from the right towards the left and stand in regular order and then their interpreters will hand the names of eac to Prince Ching to present to the Empress Dowager. The lady of senior rank will read the address to which the Empress Dowager will reply. The interpreters will conduct the ladies to the steps of the Throne, and eac will

Enclosure 2 in despatch No. 114

Ceremonies to be observed on the occasion of the wives of the Foreign Ministers calling upon the Empress Dowager, A reverent record of the Empress Dowager's reply.

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will

will ascend from right to left to the side of the Empress Dowager where the Empress Dowager will address a few remarks to them and the interpreters will stand near the steps to interpret. When the ceremony ends the Empress Dowager will signify her desire for them to retire.

6. The Princesses will conduct the ladies to the banqueting hall. After the banquet the Empress Dowager will come in her chair to this hall. The interpreters will banquet at a separate table in the same hall. There will be Chinese interpreters to interpret into English and French for each lady and th the conversation will be at their pleasure.

7. There must be at least three foreign interpreters.

8. The interpreter of the lady of senior rank shall, if desired, accompany each lady to the "Chiao Yuan Gate" where they leave their sedans; and also to the "Fu Hua Gate" where they take the wheeled carriages.

The Ministers of the Tsungli Yamen will banquet with the interpreters.

9. At the close of the Audience each of the ladies will again take the carriages and the chairs carried by two bearers to the "Chiao Yuan Gate" where they take up their sedans.

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PRINTED IN ADVANCE SHEETS NO. 356

No. 115

DIPLOMATIC,

FEB 21 1899

BUREAU

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
To Mr. Quay -
Ack & file - acdg
FEB 7 1899

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LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, December 15th, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Ackd Mar. 2/99 C

Secretary of State.

Subject: Concession granted E. Sabbione to work mines in West Chinkiang. Translation of memorial which appeared in Peking Gazette, October 18th, 1898, in regard to.

No. 115

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, December 15th, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

For the information of the Department,-I have the honor to enclose translation of a memorial which appeared in the Peking Gazette October 18th last, in regard to a concession granted E. Sabbione, an Italian associated with the Peking Syndicate, to work certain coal and iron mines in the prefectures of Hang-chou and Hu-chou in West Chinkiang.

The concession was ratified by the Throne on the 29th ultimo with the condition that the mines were to be worked in accordance with the recently promulgated "Regulations "for Mines and Railways".

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Enclosure:

As above.

E. H. Conger

Enclosure No. 1 in Despatch No. 115

Mining in Province of Chekiang.

Translation of Memorial in Peking Gazette, October 18, 1898. Kuang Hsu 24th year, 9th moon, 4th day.

Liao Shou-feng, of the First Official Rank, Governor of the Province of Chekiang, Kneeling and looking upward, implores the Sacred Glance upon this respectful memorial showing that a commercial company has been formed to work mines in the East part of Chekiang and asks for Imperial sanction to develope these sources of wealth.

The memorialist begs to state that veins of coal, iron and other minerals are found in the numerous mountains in all the prefectures of Eastern Chekiang; but as the people living near by are too poor to employ mining engineers to examine such deposits, and native mining methods produce trifling results, these natural resources are being neglected.

Your memorialist, in obedience to Imperial Decree, has often called upon merchants for capital to open mines; but as a large sum was required and Chinese shares were hard to sell, the plan did not succeed.

The Expectant Prefect, Kao Erh-i, living at his home in this province, has now petitioned as follows:-

"Imperial sanction has been given to make loans for Mining purposes in the provinces of Shansi and Honan, and a contract, made between the Shansi Bureau of Trade and the Peking syndicate, and approved by the Tsungli Yamen , contains an Article which provides that wherever foreign capital may be used in mining, the same rules shall apply. Coal is found in the Prefectures of Ch'u-chou and Yen-chou and iron in Wen-chou and Ch'u-chou; to work these mines an estimated capital of five million Taels will be required Petitioner proposes to establish a Chekiang Company to

borrow

Enclosure No. 1 in Despatch No. 115.

Mining in Provinces of Chekiang.

Translation of Memorial in Peking Gazette, October 18, 1899. Kuang Hsu 25th year, 9th moon, 4th day.

Liao Shou-tung, of the First Official Rank, Governor of the Province of Chekiang, Kneeling and looking upward, implores the Sacred Glance upon this respectful memorial showing that a commercial company has been formed to work mines in the East part of Chekiang and asks for Imperial sanction to develope these sources of wealth.

The memorialist begs to state that veins of coal, iron and other minerals are found in the numerous mountains in all the prefectures of Eastern Chekiang; but as the people living near by are too poor to employ mining engineers to examine such deposits, and native mining methods produce trifling results, these natural resources are being neglected.

Your memorialist, in obedience to Imperial decree, has often called upon merchants for capital to open mines; but as a large sum was required and Chinese shares were hard to sell, the plan did not succeed.

The Expectant Prefect, Kao Erh-i, living at his home in this province, has now petitioned as follows:-

"Imperial sanction has been given to make loans for Mining purposes in the provinces of Shansi and Honan, and a contract, made between the Shansi Bureau of Trade and the Peking syndicate, and approved by the Tsungli Yamen, contains an Article which provides that wherever foreign capital may be used in mining, the same rules shall apply. Coal is found in the Prefectures of Ch'u-chou and Yen-chou and iron in Wen-chou and Ch'u-chou; to work these mines an estimated capital of five million Taels will be required Petitioner proposes to establish a Chekiang Company to borrow

"borrow foreign capital and mine coal in Ch'u-chou and Yen-chou to smelt the iron of Wen-chou and Ch'u-chou,- the one supplying the other to the common benefit of both. A contract has been made with the merchant Sabbione, of the Italian Hui Kung syndicate, for a loan of five million Taels, under a guarantee produced from H. E. Marquis Salvago, Minister for Italy, and the Shansi mining regulations are to be conformed with in all respects. Copies of regulations, contract and guarantee are enclosed herewith, and petitioner prays that a memorial be sent to the Throne asking permission to open these mines."

Your memorialist at once consulted by telegraph with the Tsungli Yamen and mailed copies of the regulations, contract and guarantee for record.

Kao Erh-i is of a rich family and is experienced in commercial affairs. His application to mine coal and iron in Ch'u-chou, Yen-chou, Wen-chou and Ch'u-chou, and the contract he has made with the Italian merchant, verified by a guarantee, cannot be treated as vague words.

Furthermore, there are minerals in the Hang-chou and Hu-chou prefectures of West Chinkiang; therefore it is proposed to change the name "East Chinkiang Company" to "P ao Ch'ang Company" and direct them first to send mining engineers to find in what townships and hills mines are situated and what they produce, making maps thereof with explanations inserted, that it may be seen that the proposed works are not injurious to the place, after which permission will be given to open mines, and if successful they may be extended.

These proposals being in exact accord with the Shansi mining regulations issued by Tsungli Yamen, the memorialist now begs for a Rescript authorizing the mines to be opened as a source of wealth.

The

"borrow foreign capital and mine coal in Ch'n-chou and Yen-chou to smelt the iron of Wen-chou and Ch'u-chou,- the one supplying the other to the common benefit of both.

A contract has been made with the merchant Gabbione, of the Italian Hui Kung syndicate, for a loan of five million Taels, under a guarantee produced from H. E. Marquis Salvago, Minister for Italy, and the Chinese mining regulations are to be conformed with in all respects. Copies of regulations, contract and guarantee are enclosed herewith, and petitioner prays that a memorial be sent to the Throne asking permission to open these mines."

Your memorialist at once consulted by telegraph with the Taungli Yamen and mailed copies of the regulations, contract and guarantee for record.

Kao Erh-i is of a rich family and is experienced in commercial affairs. His application to mine coal and iron in Ch'u-chou, Yen-chou, Wen-chou and Ch'u-chou, and the contract he has made with the Italian merchant, verified by a guarantee, cannot be treated as vague words.

Furthermore, there are minerals in the Hang-chou and Hu-chou prefectures of West Chinkiang; therefore it is proposed to change the name "East Chinkiang Company" to "P ao Ch'ang Company" and direct them first to send mining engineers to find in what township and hills mines are situated and what they produce, making maps thereof with explanations inserted, that it may be seen that the proposed works are not injurious to the place, after which permission will be given to open mines, and if successful they may be extended.

These proposals being in exact accord with the General mining regulations issued by Taungli Yamen, the memorialist now begs for a Rescript authorizing the mines to be opened as a source of wealth.

The

The requisite reports in accordance herewith have been sent, and Your Memorialist, looking up to Your Majesties, the Empress Dowager and the Emperor, prays for the Sacred Glance hereon and for Your Majesties' commands.

Imperial Rescript: The Imperial Commissioners for Railways and Mines, and the Tsungli Yamen will confer and report hereupon. Respect this.

The requisite reports in accordance herewith have been sent, and Your Memorialist, looking up to Your Majesties, the Empress Dowager and the Emperor, prays for the Sacred Glance hereon and for Your Majesties' commands.

Imperial Rescript: The Imperial Commissioners for Railways and Mines, and the Tsungli Yamen will confer and report hereupon. Respect this.

No. 116

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, December 15th, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Transmitted two sets of Chinese postage stamps.

No. 116

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, December 15th, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

The Inspector General of Customs, Sir Robert Hart, has very courteously handed me for transmission to my Government, two sets of Chinese postage stamps, one of the experimental issue of 1897, now exhausted, and one set of the issue of 1898, definitely adopted and actually in use, which I have the honor to enclose herewith with the request that their receipt may be duly acknowledged.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

Enclosures:

One set Chinese postage stamps, issue 1897. (12)

one set .. ..,issue 1898. (12)

No. 117

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, December 16th, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Confirming Legation's telegram of the 1st and Department's reply of the 3rd instant, appointment of H.R. Williams as United States Vice Consul at Canton. His exequatur granted by Chinese Government.

No. 117

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, December 16th, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D .C .

Sir:-

I have the honor to confirm, on the overleaf, my telegram of the 1st instant and the Department's reply thereto of the 3rd, in regard to appointment of H.R.Williams as United States Vice Consul at Canton, and to inform you that I applied to the Chinese Government for his exequatur immediately upon receipt of your telegram, and that such recognition has ~~if~~, been granted and Mr.Williams so informed through the Consul General.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E H Conger

TELEGRAM SENT (CIPHER).

PEKING, DECEMBER 1ST, 1898.

HAY,

WASHINGTON.

WITH REFERENCE TO TAULMIN TRIAL THE LEGATION HAS NO RECORD APPOINTMENT WILLIAMS VICE CONSUL CANTON HENCE HAS NOT OBTAINED EXEQUATUR.

(SIGNED) CONGER.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED.

WASHINGTON, DECEMBER 3RD, 1898.

CONGER, MINISTER,

PEKING.

WILLIAMS APPOINTED VICE CONSUL CANTON. COMMISSION GOES BY NEXT MAIL.

(SIGNED) HAY.

Sims & Bainbridge,
Attorneys and Counselors,
Shugart Block.

JACOB SIMS.
W. E. BAINBRIDGE.

union claims

DIPLOMATIC,
DEC 20 1898
BUREAU.

INDIA BUREAU
REC'D.
20 DEC 1898
DEPT. OF STATE

Council Bluffs, Iowa, Dec. 17, 1898.

Ack
Dec. 20/98

To the Honorable
John Hay,
Sec. of State, Wash. D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to report that on October 22nd I left Pekin in accordance with leave of absence granted me. In the Gulf of Pechili I was overtaken by a storm and delayed at Chefoo, causing me to miss steamer at Shanghai. I was obliged to wait at Shanghai for the next steamer and arrived home yesterday, December 16th.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

W. E. Bainbridge.

Dubuque, Iowa, Dec. 17, 1898.

To the Honorable
John Hay,
Sec. of State, Wash. D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to report that on October 22nd I left Pekin in accordance with leave of absence granted me. In the Gulf of Pechili I was overtaken by a storm and detained at Chefoo, obliging me to miss steamer at Shanghai. I was obliged to wait at Shanghai for the next steamer and arrived here yesterday, December 16th.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

No. 118

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, December 17th, 1898.

Take and
Secretary Navy
Feb 10/99

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Death of Private Frank La Zier, United States Marine Guard at Peking from small-pox. Other cases.

No. 118

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, December 17th, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

It is my painful duty to inform you that Private Frank La Zier, United States Marine Corps, one of the guards on duty at this Legation, died yesterday at St Vincent Hospital, this city, of confluent small-pox and has today been buried in the English cemetery just outside the wall of the city.

The desease broke out in their quarters in this compound on November 23rd, but the patient was immediately taken to hospital, and all the marines removed to a neighboring compound which happily could be rented for the purpose. They are still quartered there and will so remain until all danger of infection is passed. In the meantime their quarters in the Legation have been most thoroughly disinfected. Two others afterwards came down with the desease, evidently

from

from exposure to the first, one of whom was the deceased La Zier. The third, as well as the first, is practically recovered, and since the usual quarantine period has run, as to the remainder, we anticipate no further trouble.

However all of us in the Legation have been somewhat anxious for the past three weeks.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. A. Conger.

No. 119

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, December 21st, 1898.

Ackd Mar. 2/99

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: List of new appointments to the Grand Council and Tsungli Yamen.

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No. 119

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, December 21st, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

I have the honor to inform you that the following appointments to the Grand Council and the Tsungle Yamen have been announced in the Peking Gazette. They are of no special interest beyond the fact that the Grand Council now has more members than at any time since the Ming dynasty, six having been the limit.

To the Grand Council: Chi Hsiu.

To the Tsungli Yamen: Kuei Ch'un, Chao Shu-ch'iao and Lien Yuan.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

No. 120

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, December 21st, 1898.

Hale
Mar. 2/99

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: List of officials of the Chinese Government.

The Grand Council, the Tsungli Yamen and the Six Boards.

No. 120

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, December 21st, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to enclose to you a list of the members of the Grand Council, the Tsungli Yamen and of the Six Boards, which make up the central government of China.

The list has been prepared with considerable care, especially as to the spelling of the Chinese names.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

Enclosure:

List as above.

Enclosure No. 1 in Despatch No. 120

Chinese official List.

Grand Council or Cabinet, seven members, four Manchu and three Chinese, arranged in order of precedence:

President. 1. Prince Li, Manchu, Hereditary Prince; a distant branch of the Imperial family.

Members. 2. Jung Lu, Manchu, A Grand Secretary of State; Supervisor of Board of War; Commander-in-chief of the Northern Armies; Member of the Tsungli Yamen; Ex-Viceroy of Province of Chihli; Ex-Military Governor of Peking.

.. 3. Kang Yi, Manchu; Junior Grand Secretary of State; President of Board of War; Ex-President of Board of Punishments; Ex-Governor of Provinces of Shansi, Kiang and Kwangtung.

4. Wang Wen-shao, Chinese, of Chekiang Province; President of Board of Revenue; Member of Tsungli Yamen; Commissioner of Railway and Mining Bureau; Ex-Viceroy Provinces of Yunnan and Kuei-chou; Ex-Viceroy Province of Chihli.

Chi Hsiu

Chi Hsiu, Manchu, President of Board of Punish-

Enclosure No. in Despatch No. 180

Chinese official List.

Grand Council or Cabinet, seven members, four Manchus and three Chinese, arranged in order of precedence:

President. 1. Prince Li, Manchu, Hereditary Prince; a distant branch of the Imperial family.

Members. 2. Jung Lu, Manchu, A Grand Secretary of State; Supervisor of Board of War; Commander-in-chief of the Northern Armies; Member of the Tsungli Yamen; Ex-Viceroy of Provinces of Chihli; Ex-Military Governor of Peking.

" 3. Kang Yi, Manchu; Junior Grand Secretary of State; President of Board of War; Ex-President of Board of Punishments; Ex-Governor of Provinces of Shensi, Kiang and Kwangtung.

4. Wang Wen-shao, Chinese, of Chekiang Province; President of Board of Revenue; Member of Tsungli Yamen; Commissioner of Railway and Mining Bureau; Ex-Viceroy Provinces of Yunnan and Kwei-chow; Ex-Viceroy Provinces of Chihli.

Chi Hsin

Chi Hsin, [illegible] President of Board of Ex-

5. Chi Hsiu, Manchu, President of Board of Ceremonies; President of Household Office.

6. Ch'ien Ying-p'u, Chinese of Chekiang; President of Board of Works; Ex-President of Censorate.

7. Liao Shou-heng, Chinese of Province of Kiangsu; Junior Guardian of Heir Apparent; President of Board of Ceremonies; Member of the Tsungli Yamen; Ex-President of Board of Punishments.

The Tsungli Yamen (Foreign Office), ten members, six Chinese and four Manchus, arranged in order of precedence.

President. 1. Prince Ch'ing, Manchu; Lord Chamberlain of the Imperial Court; Commandant of the Peking Field Force.

Members. 2. Wang Wen-shao, (Member of Grand Council. See under').

3. Liao Shou-heng, (Member of Grand Council. See under'.)

4. Ch'ung Li, Manchu; Junior Guardian of the Heir Apparent; President of the Board of Punishments; Military Governor of Peking.

5. Chao Shu-ch'iao, Chinese; President of Board

of

5. Chi Hsiu,Manchu,President of Board of Cer-
emonies; President of Household Office.

6. Ch'ien Ying-p'u,Chinese of Chekiang; Presi-
dent of Board of Works; Ex-President of Cen-
sorate.

7. Liao Shou-heng,Chinese of Province of Kiang-
su; Junior Guardian of Heir Apparent; Presi-
dent of Board of Ceremonies; Member of the
Tsungli Yamen; Ex-President of Board of Pun-
ishments.

The Tsungli Yamen (Foreign Office),ten members,six
Chinese and four Manchus,arranged in order of precedence.

President. 1. Prince Ch'ing,Manchu; Lord Chamberlain of
the Imperial Court; Commandant of the Peking
Field Force.

Members. 2. Wang Wen-shao,(Member of Grand Council. See
under').

3. Liao Shou-heng,(Member of Grand Council.See
under').

4. Ch'ung Li,Manchu; Junior Guardian of the Heir
Apparent; President of the Board of Punish-
ments; Military Governor of Peking.

5. Chao Shu-ch'iao,Chinese; President of Board

of

of Board of Punishments;Commissioner of Railway and Mining Bureau.

6. Hsü Yung-e,Chinese; Vice President of Board of Civil Office.

7. Hsü Ching-ch'êng,Chinese; Vice President of Board of Works: Ex-Minister to Germany and Russia.

8. Yüan Ch'ang,Chinese; Ex-Treasurer,Nanking;

9. Kuei Ch'un,Manchu; Ex-Provincial Judge,Kansu; Ex-Taotai of Grain Transport,Shantung.

10. Lien Yüan,Manchu; Ex-Prvincial Judge,An Hui.

In addition to the above members there is a staff of for Chief Secretaries,four Assistant Secretaries,nine Secretaries in the Bureau for Great Britain,twelve in the Bureau for France,twelve in the Bureau for Russia,twelve in the Bureau for the United States,seven in the Coast Defence Office,and various others making a total staff with official rank of seventy-nine.

The Six Boards in order of precedence.

The Board of Civil Office.

Presidents,Senior. Hsi Ching,Manchu;

Sun Chia-nai,Chinese.

Vice

of Board of Punishments;Commissioner of

Railway and Mining Bureau.

6. Hsu Yung-e,Chinese; Vice President of Board

of Civil Office.

7. Hsu Ching-ch'eng,Chinese; Vice President of

Board of Works; Ex-Minister to Germany and

Russia.

8. Yuan Ch'ang,Chinese; Ex-Treasurer,Nanking;

9. Kuei Ch'un,Manchu; Ex-Provincial Judge,Kansu;

Ex-Taotai of Urga Transport,Shantung.

10. Lien Yuan,Manchu; Ex-Provincial Judge,An Hui.

In addition to the above members there is a staff of

for Chief Secretaries,four Assistant Secretaries,nine Sec-

retaries in the Bureau for Great Britain,twelve in the Bu-

reau for France,twelve in the Bureau for Russia,twelve in

the Bureau for the United States,seven in the Coast Defence

Office,and various others making a total staff with offic-

ial rank of seventy-nine.

The Six Boards in order of precedence.

The Board of Civil Office.

Presidents;Senior. Hsi Ching,Manchu;

Sun Chia-nai,Chinese.

Vice of

Vice-Presidents. Ch'ung Kuang.

Hsü Yung-e.

Junior Vice-Presdts. P'u Shan.

Hsu Hui-feng.

The Board of Revenue.

Presidents. Ching Hsin, Manchu;

Wang Wen-shao, Chinese.

Senior Vice-Presdts. Li Shan, Manchu.

Wu Shu-mei, Chinese.

Tseng Kuang Han, (Acting).

Junior Vice-Presdts. P'u Liang, Manchu.

Ch'en Hsüeh-fen, Chinese.

The Board of Ceremonies.

Presidents. Chi Hsiu, Manchu.

Liao Shen-heng, Chinese.

Senior Vice-Presdts. Kuo P'u T'ung Wu, Manchu.

Wang Hsi Fan, (Acting).

Junior Vice-Presdts. Sa Lien, Manchu.

Tang Ching-ch'ung, Chinese.

The Board of War.

Presidents. Kang Yi, Manchu.

Hsü P'U, Chinese.

Senior

Vice-Presidents. Ch'ung Kuang.

Hsu Yung-e.

Junior Vice-Presidents.P'u Shan.

Hsu Hui-tung.

The Board of Revenue.

Presidents. Ching Hsin,Manchu;

Wang Wen-shao,Chinese.

Senior Vice-Presidents.Li Shan,Manchu.

Wu Shu-mei,Chinese.

Tsang Kuang Han,(Acting).

Junior Vice-Presidents.P'u Liang,Manchu.

Ch'en Hsueh-fen,Chinese.

The Board of Ceremonies.

Presidents. Chi Hsin,Manchu.

Liao Shou-heng,Chinese.

Senior Vice-Presidents.Kuo P'u T'ung,Wu,Manchu.

Wang Hsi Tan,(Acting).

Junior Vice-Presidents.Ke Lien,Manchu.

Tang Ching-ch'ung,Chinese.

The Six Boards in order of precedence.

The Board of War.

Presidents. Kang Yi,Manchu.

Hsu P'U,Chinese.

Senior

Senior Vice-Presdts. Jung Hui, Manchu.

Hsü Hui-feng, Chinese, (Acting).

Junior Vice-Presdts. Wen Chih, Manchu.

Shou Ch'ang, Manchu.

The Board of Punishments.

Presidents. Ch'ung Li, Manchu.

Shu-ch'iao, Chinese.

Senior Vice-Presdts. A K'o Tan, Manchu.

Li Pei-yüan, Chinese.

Junior Vice-Presdts. K'un Hsiu, Manchu.

Liang Chung-heng, Chinese.

The Board of Works.

Presidents. Sung Kuei, Manchu.

Ying-p'u, Chinese.

Hsü Shu-ming (Acting).

Senior Vice-Presdts. Feng Ming, Manchu.

Hsü Ching-ch'eng, Chinese.

Junior Vice-Presdts. Ying Nien, Manchu.

Yang Ju, Chinese.

In addition to the Presidents, etc., there is a staff of one hundred and forty-four Secretaries, one hundred and eighty-five Under Secretaries, one hundred and sixty-three Assistant

Senior Vice-Presdts.Jung Hui,Manchu.

Hsu Hui-feng,Chinese,(Acting).

Junior Vice-Presdts.Wen Chih,Manchu.

Shou Ch'ang,Manchu.

The Board of Punishments.

Presidents. Ch'ung Li,Manchu.

Shu-eh'iao,Chinese.

Senior Vice-Presdts.A K'o Tan,Manchu.

Li Pei-yuan,Chinese.

Junior Vice-Presdts.K'un Hsiu,Manchu.

Liang Chung-heng,Chinese.

The Board of Works.

Presidents. Sung Yuei,Manchu.

Ying-p'u,Chinese.

Hsu Shu-ming(Acting).

Senior Vice-Presdts.Yung Ming,Manchu.

Hsu Ching-eh'eng,Chinese.

Junior Vice-Presdts.Ying Nien,Manchu.

Yang Ju,Chinese.

In addition to the Presidents,etc.,there is a staff of one hundred and forty-four Secretaries,one hundred and eighty-five Under Secretaries,one hundred and sixty-three Assistant

Assistant Secretaries,and five hundred and fifty-three clerks,making a total staff of the Six Boards,with official rank,of one thousand and eighty-one,besides about one thousand clerks and copyists without rank.

Assistant Secretaries,and five hundred and fifty-three clerks,making a total staff of the Six Boards,with official rank,of one thousand and eighty-one,besides about one thousand clerks and copyists without rank.

The Board of Punishments.

Presidents. Ch'ung Li,Mancbu.

Shu-ch'iao,Chinese.

Senior Vice-Presids.A K'o Tan,Mancbu.

Li Fei-yuan,Chinese.

Junior Vice-Presids.K'un Hsin,Mancbu.

Liang Chung-fang,Chinese.

The Board of Works.

Presidents. Sung Yun,Mancbu.

Ying-p'u,Chinese.

Hsü Shu-ming(Acting).

Senior Vice-Presids.Tsêng Ming,Mancbu.

Hsü Chien-ch'uan,Chinese.

Junior Vice-Presids.Ying Hsin,Mancbu.

Yang Ju,Chinese.

In addition to the Presidents,etc.,there is a staff of one hundred and forty-four Secretaries,one hundred and eighty-five Under Secretaries,one hundred and sixty-three Assistant

No. 121.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, December 21st, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Acka
May 31 99
e

Subject: Copy of note to Tsungli Yamen in regard to the recently promulgated Regulations for Railways and Mines.

(Despatch No. 108, December 6th, 1898.)

Railways

No. 121

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, December 21st, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

I have the honor to enclose herewith a copy of my note No.88, dated December 14th, 1898, to the Tsungli Yamen in regard to the Regulations recently promulgated by the Bureau of Control for Railways and Mines.

A copy of these Regulations was transmitted with my Despatch No.108, of December 6th last.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

Enclosure.

Copy of note as above.

Enclosure — in despatch No. 121

F.O.No.58.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Peking, China, December 14th, 1898.

The Undersigned, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America, has the honor to acknowledge the receipt from Your Highness and Your Excellencies of a copy of Regulations recently issued by the Chinese Government concerning Railways and Mines.

Believing that the Chinese Government desires to open and develop her valuable mines and build important railways both of which will furnish countless opportunities for the employment of labor, and the creation of wealth, and believing that to accomplish this, foreign capital must be invited and secured for the purpose; and knowing that large capitalists in the United States are ready and willing to furnish the money for these enterprises if it can be done on reasonable terms and be properly safeguarded, he regrets exceedingly that a set of Regulations has been adopted that will, as he believes, absolutely prohibit any foreign capital whatever from coming to China for these objects.

Therefore in the interests of United States capital seeking investment, and for the best interests of China as well, the Undersigned calls the attention of Your Highness and Your Excellencies to some of the unfortunate features of said Regulations.

Rule 4. Prohibits the working of railways and mines in combination. In other countries the development of mines and railways has often been found more successful and satisfactory when operated together than otherwise.

Rule

Enclosure — in despatch No. 172

F.O.No.58.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Peking, China, December 14th, 1898.

The Undersigned, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America, has the honor to acknowledge the receipt from Your Highness and Your Excellencies of a copy of Regulations recently issued by the Chinese Government concerning Railways and Mines.

Believing that the Chinese Government desires to open and develop her valuable mines and build important railways both of which will furnish countless opportunities for the employment of labor, and the creation of wealth, and believing that to accomplish this, foreign capital must be invited and secured for the purpose; and knowing that large capitalists in the United States are ready and willing to furnish the money for these enterprises if it can be done on reasonable terms and be properly safeguarded, he regrets exceedingly that a set of Regulations has been adopted that will, as he believes, absolutely prohibit any foreign capital whatever from coming to China for these objects.

Therefore in the interests of United States capital seeking investment, and for the best interests of China as well, the Undersigned calls the attention of Your Highness and Your Excellencies to some of the unfortunate features of said Regulations.

Rule 4. Prohibits the working of railways and mines in combination. In other countries the development of mines and railways has often been found more successful and satisfactory when operated together than otherwise.

Rule

Rule 5. If the school of instruction demanded is to be comprehensive enough to be of real value, it will be too expensive for small lines and hence will keep the cheapest capital out. Better have one general school and make all the railways contribute.

Rule 6. Great public enterprises cannot be safely left to hang on local favor as this rule provides.

Rule 9. It may be wise to make every endeavor to enlist Chinese capital in these works, but foreign capital should not be ruled out in consequence, or be compelled to make unfair or unreasonable terms to get in.

Rule 10. Not a single foreign dollar will be furnished, if the Government absolves itself from all responsibility as it does in this rule.

Rule 13. Neither will foreign capital be risked in such experiments, if it is to have no voice in its management which this rule forbids.

Rule 16. Nor will one cent be so invested by foreigners, if they believe their Governments will not interfere to protect the legitimate rights of their subjects, which this rule pretends to prohibit.

Rule 20. No capitalist will invest a farthing in a railway that is upon its inception saddled with a burden of forty per cent of its profits, nor a mine that must pay twenty five per cent.

Rule 21. No company could or would submit to the hardship of closing their books and transporting them to a distant province for examination, and hence would never organize under such a threatened possibility. Some provisions for governmental supervision could be made without this hardship.

The Undersigned recognizes the right of the Chinese Government to make whatever regulations it pleases, subject to treaty rights

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Rule 16. Nor will one cent be so invested by foreigners, if they believe their Governments will not interfere to protect the legitimate rights of their subjects, which this rule pretends to prohibit.

Rule 20. No capitalist will invest a farthing in a railway that is upon its inception saddled with a burden of forty per cent of its profits, nor a mine that must pay twenty five per cent.

Rule 21. No company could or would submit to the hardship of closing their books and transporting them to a distant province for examination, and hence would never organize under such a threatened possibility. Some provisions for governmental supervision could be made without this hardship.

The Undersigned recognizes the right of the Chinese Government to make whatever regulations it pleases, subject to treaty rights

rights and international obligations, in the management of its internal affairs; but because it has invited foreign capital and because his countrymen are anxious to respond to this invitation, finds it his duty to make the above suggestions with the hope that the railway and mining Regulations may be so amended as not to effectually prohibit the object apparently sought, as these now promulgated are sure to do.

The Undersigned avails himself of the occasion to assure Your Highness and Your Excellencies of his highest consideration.

(Signed) E. H. CONGER.

His Highness, Prince Ching,

and Their Excellencies, of the Tsungli Yamen,

etc. etc. etc.

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The Undersigned avails himself of the occasion to assure Your Highness and Your Excellencies of his highest consideration.

(Signed) E. H. CONGER.

His Highness, Prince Ching,

and Their Excellencies, of the Tsungli Yamen,

etc. etc. etc.

Dip)

Form No. 282.

DIPLOMATIC,
DEC 23 1898
BUREAU.

Confirm

Ans'd by cable Dec 23, 1898.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D.
22 DEC 1898
DEPT. OF STATE

From Peking, Dec.22,1898

Received 1.25 P.M.

Everett Fra-
gar nifd
Jan. 13/99

Posted Dec 28

ASSISTANT SECRETARY
DEC 22 1898
DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

H A Y,

Washington,
(9)

Proposed French settlement extension Shanghai with exclusive jurisdiction includes American property; the owners object. Great Britain instructs Minister protest energetically to any extension unless under combined jurisdiction. Shall I protest.

Conger.

Deciphered by Chief Clerk.

Dec 22, 189 2 P M.

No. 122

Mar 2/99

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, December 24th, 1898.

Rec'd. 1/7/99
Sent from Mr. Conger
3 copies of Advance Sheets No. 37
to D.C.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Translation of a decree concerning the building and management of railways.

No. 122

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, December 24th, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

I have the honor to enclose translation of a memorial, which has received Imperial sanction, concerning the building and management of railways and distinguishes between those that are urgent and those the construction of which may be delayed.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedinet servant.

E. H. Conger

Enclosure:

Translation of memorial as above.

Enclosure in Despatch No. 122

A respectful memorial to the Throne for thorough consideration of the management of railways, and to distinguish between those that are urgent and those that may be delayed, looking up, we pray for the Sacred Glance.

It was at first supposed that a speedy construction of main and branch lines of railways would greatly benefit the Government and be a convenience to the people, and that a network of a great many roads penetrating in all directions would be of great advantage. Nevertheless in consideration of the present state of affairs, it is necessary to decide which should have preference in time, and the memorialists request a statement of the course to be pursued.

The Lu-Han, and Hankow-Canton lines are the most important trunk lines; next in importance is the Tientsin-Chinkiang line, and Shanhaikuan, and beyond, Moukden, Newchwang, etc. are strategical points, and roads must be built. With these exceptions, other railways are branch lines. Trunk lines are expensive in construction, and the profits slow in returning; branch lines coast less, and profits are more speedy in realizing.

The Government has fixed its thought on trunk lines that its orders issued and its commands may be speedily transmitted; the merchants, in order that trade may be brisk and their merchandise be quickly moved have fixed upon branch lines. Trunk lines are through lines; branch lines are side lines.

If the management does not distinguish the order of precedent, this condition will increase the number of those who wish to build branch lines and they will become noisy and league together to make false representations.

Proper companies wishing to build trunk lines will find no demand for their bonds; in this way, confusion will result and the work be completed with great difficulty. Rejecting the main for branch lines is not a good plan. If trunk lines and branch lines are to be built together, while there might be some

it would

60

would not result in large profits. Chinese merchants selling bonds for branch lines would find difficulty in disposing of them, therefore to repay foreign loans principal and interest, there is fear that to meet the current expenses there would be no certain revenue.

The Ministers have consulted together concerning the building of trunk and trunk and branch lines at the same time, and think it would result in confusion; that it would be better to first build the trunk lines that are important, and when a good beginning has been made proceed with extension.

Again, on examination, Lu-Han, Hankow-Canton trunk lines, and the branch lines of Ningpo, Shanghai, Seochow, Chekiang, Pu-hsiu, Kuang-chiu and other near important trunk lines, are all under the direction of Sheng Hsuan Huai. Tientsin-Chinkiang Shanhaikuan, and beyond, have already been by Imperial Decree placed under direction of Hu Chu-fen and others. Tai Yuan to Liu-lin are under the Shansi Syndicate. Kuang-hsi, Lung-chou are under direction of General Su Yuan-Ch'un. We must request a decree ordering said officials to hasten the completion of the important lines. If the funds are sufficient to pay the loan principal and interest and meet the current expenses, and should there be any surplus it can be used for branch lines. This must be attended with great diligence. After this memorial, except the agreements previously made with different Governments, all merchants requesting to construct branch lines from this time they will be refused. If this meets the Imperial consent the Ministers will command that these instructions be followed.

Therefore we have thoroughly considered the management of railways and have presented this memorial in regard to the order to be followed. Kneeling we beg the Empress Dowager and Emperor to give their Sacred Glance and signify their will. The Tsungli Yamen endorses this memorial and instructs the Mining and Railway Bureau to be governed accordingly.

Vermilion pencil sanctioned the memorial Kuang Hsu 24th

24th year, 11th Moon, 1st day.

Respect this.

No. 123

Peking
China
—"—

DIPLOMATIC,
FEB 28 1899
BUREAU.

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D.
28FEB '99
DEPT. OF STATE

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

[redacted]ber 29th,1898.

Mr.Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Supply of lead and wire with die stamp received.

(Instructions No.73,November 8th,1898.)

No. 123.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, December 29th,1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Department's instructions No.73 of the 8th ultimo,and also of die stamp,with supply of wire and lead,for sealing the pouches,which was referred to therein. All pouches leaving this Legation will hereafter be sealed,and I beg to request that the same precaution may be observed in sending pouches from the State Department as the pouch received today (containing instructions Nos.72,73 and 74,two packages of private mail,but no newspapers)had evidently been opened en route.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

and also

sealing the

No. 124

DIPLOMATIC,
MAR 9 1899
BUREAU.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
Ack and approve.
[For. Rels 1898.]
FEB 28 1899

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D.
28FEB '99
DEPT. OF STATE

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, Deember 29th, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Mar. 21/99

Sujeet: Correspondence with Chinese Government in regard to conference to be held by the missionaries at Chungking in January next.

No. 124

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, December 29th, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to report that at the request of Bishop Earl Cranston, I requested the Tsungli Yamen, November 9th last, to issue special instructions to the Viceroy of Szechuan to take such measures as will insure the protection of all missionaries going to and from and attending the annual conference to be held at Chungking during January next.

The Yamen telegraphed the instructions, but on the 17th instant the Viceroy requested that because of existing disturbances in the province, the conference be postponed.

I telegraphed this request to Rev. Spencer Lewis and asked him to notify Bishop Cranston. He replied that it was too late to postpone conference as some parties had already

arrived

arrived safely at Chungking and others were en route. I therefore communicated this fact to the Tsungli Yamen and insisted that extraordinary precautions must be taken to protect these people in accordance with treaty obligations, etc,which they have promised to do.

The situation in Szechuan is most disturbed,but due and ample warning has been given the Chinese Government,and it is to be hoped that no trouble will result.

I enclose copies of correspondence between the Tsungli Yamen and the Legation on the subject.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

Enclosures:

1. Mr.Conger to the Tsungli Yamen,No.35,November 9th, 1898.
2. The Tsungli Yamen to Mr.Conger,November 13th,1898.
3. The Tsungli Yamen to Mr Conger,December 17th,1898.
4. Mr.Conger to the Tsungli Yamen,December 19th,1898.
5. Mr.Conger to the Tsungli Yamen,December 22nd,1898.
6. The Tsungli Yamen to Mr.Conger,December 26th,1898.

Enclosure / in despatch No. 124

No. 35.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Peking, China, November 9th, 1898.

The Undersigned, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America, has the honor Your Highness and Your Excellencies, that in January next, there will be held, at the city of Chungking, the general annual conference of all the Protestant missionaries in Western China, and that of the Methodist Episcopal missionaries. The former will continue from eight to twelve days, and the latter from four to six.

The missionaries from all West China are expected to gather there, and in going and coming will probably occupy the most of the months of January and February. In order therefore to allay any fears that just now may possess any of the missionaries and to avoid the possibility of trouble or danger, the Undersigned would respectfully request that Your Highness and Your Excellencies take the precaution to cause such timely proclamations to be issued, and such prompt special and explicit orders given to the Provincial and local officials as will insure the safety of all the missions in West China, and the security and protection of all parties going to and returning from the above mentioned meetings.

The Undersigned avails himself of the occasion to assure Your Highness and Your Excellencies of his highest consideration.

(Signed) E. H. CONGER.

To His Highness, Prince Ching,

and Their Excellencies of the Tsungli Yamen,

etc. etc. etc.

Enclosure/1 in despatch No. 124

No. 35.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, November 9th, 1898.

The Undersigned, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America, has the honor Your Highness and Your Excellencies, that in January next, there will be held, at the city of Chungking, the general annual conference of all the Protestant missionaries in Western China, and that of the Methodist Episcopal missionaries. The former will continue from eight to twelve days, and the latter from four to six.

The missionaries from all West China are expected to gather there, and in going and coming will probably occupy the most of the months of January and February. In order therefore to allay any fears that just now may possess any of the missionaries and to avoid the possibility of trouble or danger, the Undersigned would respectfully request that Your Highness and Your Excellencies take the precaution to cause such timely proclamations to be issued, and such prompt special and explicit orders given to the Provincial and local officials as will insure the safety of all the missions in West China, and the security and protection of all parties going to and returning from the above mentioned meetings.

The Undersigned avails himself of the occasion to assure Your Highness and Your Excellencies of his highest consideration.

(Signed) E. H. CONGER.

To His Highness, Prince Ching,

and Their Excellencies of the Tsungli Yamen.

etc. etc. etc.

Enclosure 2 in despatch No. 124

THE TSUNGLI YAMEN TO MR. CONGER.

----------oOo----------

No.26. Peking, November 13th, 1898.

Your Excellency:-

The Yamen has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's note, wherein you state "that in "January next, there will be held, at the city of Chungking, "the general annual conference of all the Protestant mission- "aries in Western China, and that of the Methodist Episcopal "missionaries. The former will continue from 8 to 12 days, "and the latter from 4 to 6.

"The missionaries from all West China are expected to "gather there, and in going and coming will probably occupy "two months. In order therefore to allay any fears that just "now may possess any of the missionaries and to avoid the "possibility of any trouble, the Undersigned would respect- "fully request that Your Highness and Your Excellencies take "the precaution to cause such timely proclamations to be "issued, and such prompt, special and explicit orders given "to the Provincial and local officials as will insure the "safety of all the missions in West China, and the security "of all parties going and returning from the above mentioned "meetings etc."

Upon receipt of Your Excellency's note the Yamen immed- iately telegraphed the Viceroy of Szechuan to instruct the local authorities to afford satisfactory protection at the time mentioned.

A necessary reply to Your Excellency's communication.

Enclosure 2 in despatch No. 12 A.

THE TSUNGLI YAMEN TO MR. CONGER.

---oOo---

No.25. Peking, November 13th, 1899.

Your Excellency:-

The Yamen has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's note,wherein you state "that in "January next,there will be held,at the city of Chungking, "the general annual conference of all the Protestant missions "aries in Western China,and that of the Methodist Episcopal "missionaries. The former will continue from 8 to 12 days, "and the latter from 4 to 6.

"The missionaries from all West China are expected to "gather there,and in going and coming will probably occupy "two months. In order therefore to allay any fears that just "now may possess any of the missionaries and to avoid the "possibility of any trouble,the Undersigned would respect- "fully request that Your Highness and Your Excellencies take "the precaution to cause such timely proclamations to be "issued,and such prompt,special and explicit orders given "to the Provincial and local officials as will insure the "safety of all the missions in West China,and the security "of all parties going and returning from the above mentioned "meetings etc."

Upon receipt of Your Excellency's note the Yamen immed- iately telegraphed the Viceroy of Szechuan to instruct the local authorities to afford satisfactory protection at the time mentioned.

A necessary reply to Your Excellency's communication.

Enclosure 3 in despatch No. 124

THE TSUNGLI YAMEN TO MR. CONGER.

----------oOo----------

No.45. Peking, December 17th, 1898.

Your Excellency:-

We have the honor to inform you that on the 15th instant this Yamen received from the Viceroy of Szechuan the following telegram:-

"I am in receipt of the Tsungli Yamen's communication "stating that they have received a despatch from Minister "Conger to the effect 'that in January next, there will be "held, at the city of Chungking, the General Annual Conference "of all the Protestant missionaries in Western China and that "of the Methodist Episcopal missionaries, and that instruc- "tions be sent to the local officials to insure protection "to all those parties going to and returning from the confer- "ences.' I then ordered the local officials to act accord- "ingly and the case is on record.

"Moreover, before the Yu Man-tzus were pacified, banditti "everywhere, feigning the names of Yu Man-tzu have been crea- "ting trouble and the state of affairs is very grave, so that "it will be necessary to move troops. Chungking is a place "where trouble frequently occurs and it is difficult to pre- "serve quietness. Although the missionaries have decided to "hold their conferences in January, there is a possibility "that these worthless fellows will take this opportunity to "cause trouble, making it even more difficult to rectify "matters. Therefore would it not be well to address Minister

Conger

Enclosure 3 in despatch No. 12 ✓

THE TSUNGLI YAMEN TO MR. CONGER.

No.45. Peking, December 17th, 1898.

Your Excellency:-

We have the honor to inform you that on the 15th instant this Yamen received from the Viceroy of Szechuan the following telegram:-

"I am in receipt of the Tsungli Yamen's communication "stating that they have received a despatch from Minister "Conger to the effect 'that in January next, there will be "held, at the city of Chungking, the General Annual Conference "of all the Protestant missionaries in Western China and that "of the Methodist Episcopal missionaries, and that instruc- "tions be sent to the local officials to insure protection "to all those parties going to and returning from the confer- "ences.' I then ordered the local officials to act accord- "ingly and the case is on record.

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Conger

"Conger with the request that he will telegraph the chairman "of the forthcoming conferences to delay their meetings "temporarily until quiet is restored, etc."

Upon investigation we find that the facts given in the Viceroy's telegram are truly so. The special object in view is to prevent any misfortune from springing up in order that the missionaries may be protected.

We send this note for Your Excellency's information and would beg you to telegraph the chairman of said conferences to put off their meetings in Chungking for the present in order that any future trouble may be avoided.

Cards of Ministers with compliments.

etc. etc. etc.

Cards of Ministers with compliments.

Enclosure 4 in despatch No. 124

F.O.No.60.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Peking, China, December 19th, 1898.

The Undersigned, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America, has to-day received the note of Your Highness and Your Excellencies in which it is stated that the Viceroy of Szechuan telegraphs, in reference to the proposed missionary conference to be held at Chungking in January next, that the "state of affairs is "very grave and that there is a possibility that worthless "fellows will take this opportunity to cause trouble, and he "therefore recommends that Minister Conger be requested to "telegraph the chairman of said conference to postpone their "meetings for the present, etc., etc."

The Viceroy's suggestion has been telegraphed to Rev. Spencer Lewis, a leading American missionary at Chungking; but he must inform Your Highness and Your Excellencies that only one of the conferences is wholly American, the other is a general conference composed of English, Americans and all other Protestant missionaries.

He, however, apprehends that it is now too late to stop the gathering of these people at Chungking, because some of the delegates are already en route thither, and others are sure to start before they can be communicated with. So that whether or not the conferences are held, many of the missionaries will be going to or from their homes and will require protection

To His Highness, Prince Ching,

and Their Excellencies of the Tsungli Yamen,

etc. etc. etc.

Enclosure 4 in despatch No. 174

F.O.No.66.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Peking, China, December 18th, 1889.

The Undersigned, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America, has to-day received the note of Your Highness and Your Excellencies in which it is stated that the Viceroy of Szechuan telegraphs, in reference to the proposed missionary conference to be held at Chungking in January next, that the "state of affairs is "very grave and that there is a possibility that worthless "fellows will take this opportunity to cause trouble, and he "therefore recommends that Minister Conger be requested to "telegraph the chairman of said conference to postpone their "meetings for the present, etc., etc."

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To His Highness, Prince Ching,

and Their Excellencies of the Tsungli Yamen,

etc. etc. etc.

protection. Besides it is the annual meeting of the American Episcopal Mission, over which the Bishop presides and makes important communications and suggestions. For this supervisory purpose Bishop Earl Cranston has come from the United States and is now somewhere on his way from Shanghai to Chungking, and it will be very difficult, if not impossible to reach him.

It seems therefore, that it is not likely that the gathering of the missionaries at Chungking can now be prevented, and having once gathered there, a quiet and orderly conference could do no harm.

The Undersigned feels that he is in duty bound to lay before Your Highness and Your Excellencies these facts, in order that such further precautionary measures may be taken as the exigencies of the occasion require.

Since the Viceroy himself acknowledges the existence of danger from some worthless fellows, any lack of watchfulness, or failure, on his part to provide means to restrain and control these fellows, will be inexcusable and indefensible.

Although the Undersigned has telegraphed the missionaries at Chungking, yet because of the several nationalities interested, and of the impossibility of informing the delegates in time, a postponement of the gathering may be impossible, he insists that under these extraordinary circumstances, extraordinary efforts should be put forth by the Chinese Government to meet the obligations which treaty obligations fix upon it.

The Undersigned avails himself etc.

(Signed) E. H. CONGER.

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The Undersigned avails himself etc.

(Signed) E. H. CONGER.

Enclosure 5 in despatch No. 124

F.O.No.64.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Peking, China, December 22nd, 1898.

In reference to the proposed missionary conference to be held in January at Chungking, and in reply to his telegram suggesting a postponement thereof, the Undersigned, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America, has this day received a telegram from Rev. Spencer Lewis of Chungking as follows:-

"Too late postpone conference. Parties arriving safely. "Others already starting. Require Viceroy's protection."- which he has the honor to bring to the immediate attention of Your Highness and Your Excellencies.

Since the conference cannot be postponed, the Undersigned requests that the Viceroy may be ordered to take whatever extra precautions may be necessary to prevent trouble.

The Undersigned avails himself etc.

(Signed) E. H. CONGER.

to His Highness, Prince Ching,

and Their Excellencies of the Tsungli Yamen,

etc. etc. etc.

Enclosure) in despatch No. 174

F.O.No.64.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Peking, China, December 22nd, 1898.

In reference to the proposed missionary conference to be held in January at Chungking, and in reply to his telegram suggesting a postponement thereof, the Undersigned, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America, has this day received a telegram from Rev. Spencer Lewis of Chungking as follows:-

"Too late postpone conference. Parties arriving safely. "Others already starting. Require Viceroy's protection."-

which he has the honor to bring to the immediate attention of Your Highness and Your Excellencies.

Since the conference cannot be postponed, the Undersigned requests that the Viceroy may be ordered to take whatever extra precautions may be necessary to prevent trouble.

The Undersigned avails himself etc.

(Signed) E. H. CONGER.

to His Highness, Prince Ching,

and Their Excellencies of the Tsungli Yamen,

etc. etc. etc.

Enclosure No.6 in Despatch No. 124

The Tsungli Yamen to Mr.Conger,December 26th,1898.

No.52.

Your Excellency:

We have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's communications of the 19th and 22nd instants respectively,relative to the missionary conferences to be held at Chungking in January next.

You therein state that you have wired Rev.Spencer Lewis to postpone said conference and that you have received his reply as follows:

"Too late postpone conference. Part-
"ies arriving safely. Others already starting,require
"Viceroy's protection."

Since the conference cannot be post poned,Your Excellency requests that the Viceroy may be ordered to take whatever extra precautions may be necessary to prevent trouble.

In addition to wiring the Viceroy to adopt measures for protection,as in duty bound,we sent this note for Your Excellency's consideration.

Our Cards of Ministers with compliments.

Enclosure No.6 in Despatch No. 172

The Tsungli Yamen to Mr.Conger,December 26th,1898.

No.52.

Your Excellency:

We have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's communications of the 19th and 22nd instants respectively,relative to the missionary conferences to be held at Chungking in January next.

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In addition to wiring the Viceroy to adopt measures for protection,as in duty bound,we sent this note for Your Excellency's consideration.

Cards of Ministers with compliments.

No. 125

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, December 30th, 1898.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Translation of an Imperial Decree of December 28th, 1898. K'ang Yu Wei.

(Despatches No. 54, September 30th, 1898; No. 76, October 22nd, 1898; No. 97, November 22nd, 1898.)

No. 125

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Peking, China, December 30th, 1898.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

I have the honor to enclose herewith a translation of an Imperial Decree, which appeared in the Peking Gazette of the 28th instant, in regard to K'ang Yu Wei, the so-called reform leader, who is referred to in my despatches No. 54, September 30th, No. 76, October 22nd, and No. 97, November 22nd, last.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. H. Conger

Enclosure:

Translation of Imperial Decree as above.

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To Mr My Corporations V. 54,Sep-

tember 30th,No.70; No.

Enclosure No. 1 in Despatch No. 125.

Translation of an Imperial Decree issued in the Peking Gazette, December 28th, 1898.

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T'an Chung Lin, Viceroy of the Two Kuang provinces, has submitted for inspection a memorial, transmitting therewith many traitorous letters and stone seals which were confiscated at the native place of K'ang Yu Wei and written by members of his rebellious faction.

Investigating the seditious phrases of the original letters it is found that they are long-winded tedious documents. At the worst they designate T'an Ssu T'ung as a candidate for President of the Nation. They state that the present Dynasty is not worth helping. In all these letters the year "Kuang Hsü" is not used; but they are dated in large characters "so many thousands, hundreds and tens of years after Confucius".

Following up all the actions of this arrogant fellow, he is found to be worse than a traitor. His letters concern a great number of persons. The Court is very lenient in its administration and therefore does not desire to implicate others by making further investigation. The original letters have been burned. But because K'ang Yu Wei was the leader in using corrupt languange, in this way misleading the people, his crime cannot but be proclaimed, in order to nip his conspiracy in the bud. It is reported that many false rumors have been spread about by ignorant people; some saying the intention of this traitor was merely for the purpose of introducing reforms. These letters are evidence enough to prove that K'ang Yu Wei was thoroughly perverse and unprincipled.

All ministers and those eating the produce and living on the soil, subordinate to this Court, ought to understand what is right and should not be misled by this traitor's corrupt

words, in order, that by distinguishing what is right and what is wrong, they may be able to be of a quiet mind.

A Decree that all may understand. Respect this.